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*Amil Varma Mehta
College Row, Calcutta*

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,211.

DOLA YATRA.

(Or a festival, in commemoration of the swinging of Krishna in the cradle while a child.)

By Kashiprasad Ghose.

I.

Herald of spring, the southern gale,
In whispers soft thro' every vale,
Proclaimeth spring's return ;
And wakes the blighted plants of bowers,
With magic touch to bloom with flowers,
Beneath the solar urn

II.

Bright with the beams of coming even,
Is glowing yonder western heaven,
Which many a hue combine ;
As if it were a heavenly dome,
Where in her variegated home,
Would fancy love to shine.

III.

Sweet pleasure breathes in every tone
Of beasts, within these woodlands lone.
Or birds that wander gay ;
As 'twere a farewell to the sun,
Whose race of splendour hath been run---
Who now hath fled away

IV.

Where yonder rosy-bosomed waves
O'erflow the cool and coral caves
Of sacred Jumna's tide ;
And make a music sweet and soft,
As on they travel, dimpling oft,
In solemn, sullen pride.

V.

And now full many a youthful dame,
Born in that race, whose mighty fame
Hath flown in every way,
Came round the cradle where the boy,
The flower---the hope---the pride---the joy
Of Nanda, resting lay.

VI.

And as with frolics, lips and smiles,
The infant god his time beguiles,
They swing him oft again ;
And in the One Eternal's praise,
Their voices sweet harmonious raise,
Combined with music's strain

VII.

And all is fair and all delight,
As though they made the evening bright
With pleasure's sunshine glow ;
As though they meant to banish all
The cares and sorrows, that appeal
This hapless world below.

DR. W. H. FITCHETT'S IMPRESSIONS OF INDIA.

Dr. W. H. Fitchett, who recently passed through India, contributes a chapter of his impressions to the Melbourne Argus.

So comes (he writes) that sensation of walking amidst illusion and shams which lies on the mind of the visitor in India. It is the land of the Taj and of the Pearl Mosque, the land, to quote Milton, of "barbaric pearl and gold," of seas and elephants and Brahmins, of picture-gate ceremonial and gaudy colours. Yet where else in the world are to be seen such solid villages ; dresses so near absolute nakedness ; tools and machinery so mechanical, ingenious, or work so bankrupt of material ; To watch a number of Indian coolies at their work, or to see a picture of the industrial method of the East. What invention has Indian genius given to the world ? That book has it written what discoveries has it made ? The art India has discovered, one is tempted to say, is the art of squatting. The newspaper squats on the board he planes ; the blacksmith squats as he piles his hammer on the anvil ; the gharry driver squats on the seat of his vehicle ; the teacher squats as he inscribes his chalk on the blackboard ; millions in India live in reduced to its very poorest elements. It is made up of one meal a day, one garment---and a mud hut. They wash diligently, no doubt, but nowhere on earth is so much washing done with so complete a want of visible results.

India thus is, in many senses, a land of disappointments. And yet the condemnation which takes in 294,000,000 people (nearly one-fifth of the human race) must be too sweeping. The northern races of India include some of the best fighting material known to history ; and even of the swarming, soft-fibred Bengalis of the south it may be said that it, like the later Greeks, whom the Romans knew so well and despised so profoundly, they lack the more virile qualities, yet they have the quick-witted subtlety of the Greek. They make financiers, lawyers, and after a slippery and subtle fashion, administrators.

And even one who sees with critical and somewhat disgusted fashion all that is tawdry and crude in current Indian art, stands, like stout Cortes and his comrades when they saw the Pacific, "silent with a great surprise" before the historic buildings of India---the Taj or the Pearl Mosque, or the two great halls of public and private audience at Delhi. It is true these buildings, in a sense, are exotics. They are the work of a foreign conquering dynasty and no more represent indigenous art than, say, Windsor Castle represents Anglo-Saxon art. But what miracles of beauty

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they are! Here is marble wrought with the delicacy and finish of lace. Here are towers, pillars, cupolas carved like jewels. Their builders, to quote Bishop Heber, designed like Titans and finished like jewellers."

One feature in the outward aspect of Indian life remains to be noted. Behind the sham picturesque, the kaleidoscope life of India streets, the wondering visitor presently begins to see something separate, something unlike any other street-scene in the world. There is something in the dress, or physical build, or social habit, which parts it from any other crowd of human beings on the planet. Suppose these gaudily-dressed figures which saunter by incessantly were a crowd in London or New York or Melbourne; each man in that case would have some personal interest which for the moment absorbed him; some object of which he is in busy pursuit; some task he is hurrying to accomplish. An air of keen purpose would lie on the crowd; but this is not in the least the case with the drifting human current in Indian streets. The crowd has an air listless, detached, indifferent. It is marked by an absence both of curiosity and of haste. And what one sees is not in the least the "patient, deep disdain" of the hurrying, intrusive West, with which Matthew Arnold credits the East. It is the air rather of people expecting nothing, desiring nothing concerned with nothing. Something has stamped itself on this people, something born of creed, or climate, or history--or of forces behind even these--which gives them a look of indefinable passivity, a lack of interest in things.

And it is a fact that something lies on every Indian life, and shapes it to a pattern independent of the owner's will. It is not the kismet of the Mohammedan; it is something nearer; more human, more clearly realised. Is it a foolish guess that the tremendous institution of caste, whose signature is written in visible characters on every Hindu's brow, has flung a sort of spiritual shadow on every Indian face? India, it must be remembered, is a land of fixed social horizons. Hope, or the expectation of change, is not so counted as a force colouring life. The parish must always be a parish. The cruel rigidities of caste shut round every life; they fetter every human action; they override all natural human feelings. "Caste," says Sir H. S. Maine, "is the most dangerous and blighting of human institutions." It is a universal and intangible despotism. A compulsion as omnipresent as the air and as little to be escaped. Is it an idle imagination, it may be asked again, that sees the shadow of caste lying on all Indian life.

WHAT IT COSTS TO APPEAR IN COURT DRESS IN ENGLAND.

Although in the ordinary course of life there are few, if any, countries where so little display of uniforms or ceremonial dress is seen as in England, yet on the occasion of a Royal function or a State ceremonial there is a rich magnificence surpassed nowhere. The scene at a Royal Court, a levee, or a diplomatic reception is bewildering to the eye of anyone unaccustomed to the soundings, and the costliness of the various uniforms, and by their variety and beauty. And this without any note of the exquisite dress and jewels worn by the present either officially or by right of the highest rank.

First in rank, comes His Majesty the King, who, though enjoying the possession of so great a variety of uniforms and dresses, is seen considerably over 100, almost invariably appears in the uniform of a Field Marshal of the British Army, handsome in itself, but by no means either so elaborate or so worn by many of the great officers of State. Among the most magnificent of the Earl Marshal of England an hereditary office has been held for many generations by the Dukes of Northumberland, the most magnificent and certainly most expensive. It is absolutely unique in its gorgeousness, between £1,000 and 1,800yds. of gold embroidery of the most exquisite design being used in the decoration of the coat, collar, and sleeves, and costing about £230.

This flowing ermine robes, silk vests, and full-bottomed wigs of the full dress of the Lord Chancellors of England and Ireland, stately and dignified, are little less expensive, coming to something like £200 each. The complete costume of many of the first-class Court officials runs up to nearly as much, the jacket alone costing from £80 to £110. It is of the finest Royal blue cloth, most artistically and lavishly embroidered in gold lace with gilt buttons. The waistcoat is richly designed to match, and the knee-

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breeches of white kerseymere silk with buttons and buckles of gilt, white silk stockings, Court sword, cocked hat, and white kid gloves complete a dress as rich as it is dignified.

There are five ranks or classes of Court officials and others who are entitled to attend Royal functions ranging from those of the first rank, including Ministers of State, members of the Corps Diplomatique--Ambassadors and their retinues--and the great officers of the Royal Household, down to the Lord Lieutenant of counties, who belong to the fifth class. The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the Viceroy of India, as distinct representatives of Royalty, belong to the first class, and have special ceremonial dress each of his office.

It is almost impossible for the eye of the uninitiated observer to distinguish the difference between either "full" and levee dress or the higher ranks officialdom. Minutes shades or width in the embroidery, the width of the lace, and the number of buttons make the distinction. The point most easily marked is the varying width of the edging embroidery, ranging from five inches in the first class to three-eighths of an inch in the fifth. The difference in cost, however, is considerable, levee uniform costing from £120 to £130. The Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, the Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms, and the Master of the Horse each wear special and costly uniforms, while the Squires and Pages of Honour wear prescribed dresses, all handsome and distinguishing them to the eye of the connoisseur.

One remarkably picturesque uniform has during the present reign disappeared for ever from the Court. There is now no Master of the Royal Buckhounds, who in his green and gold hunting dress with gold "couplets" was formerly one of the notable figures at all great functions.

The Lord-Lieutenants of counties, always either peers of high rank or county gentlemen of the most ancient lineage, are included in the fifth class, and wear military uniform hardly to be distinguished from that of general officers in the Army by the civilian eye. The difference, however, lies in the cut of the tunic, which is swallow-tailed, while silver lace and buttons take the place of the gold worn by the Army, and the cocked hat has no plumes. The uniform costs at least £100. Deputy-Lieutenants of counties--appointed by the Lord-Lieutenant in every case--and members of the "Court of Lieutenancy of the City of London," who are appointed by the Lord Mayor, wear a similar uniform, but with less lace and embroidery, and costing considerably less.

The uniforms of the various Ambassadors and their suites lend most picturesque variety to all great Court functions, rivaling each other in richness and beauty of design, the one notable exception being the American Minister, who wears invariably plain evening dress. Every gentleman either presented or "commanded" to Court must wear the prescribed Court dress unless entitled to wear some recognised official uniform. This is usually of plain velvet embroidered in steel, with lace ruffles, black Court sword, and plain cocked hat, and may cost anything from £40 to £50.

£40,000 FOR A CHAIR.

FORTUNES THAT ARE SAT ON.

It is an interesting coincidence that while the Prince of Wales is making his regal progress through one great British dependency in another, Canada, the City of Ontario is widely excited at the prospect of securing a certain chair on which King Edward sat during his American tour a generation and more ago. Nowhere has the King been received with more enthusiastic loyalty than in Canada, and that this loyalty is as lasting as intense is proved by the fact that enormous sums have been offered for this old-time memento.

It is interesting to compare the £1,000 which is said to have been offered for this chair intrinsically worth a few shillings, with the prices realized by other chairs which have had Royal or distinguished occupants. It is not long since two £5 notes purchased a chair in which the "Merry Monarch" used to sit; while another which once held a Pope went for £5 10s. Even a chair in which the great Shakespeare himself took his ease could command no higher bid than £126; Lord Byron's chair changed hands for 50s.; and £2 was the price paid for one of Sir Walter Raleigh's.

A chair which at one time was used by the beautiful and ill-fated Anne Boleyn brought ten guineas, which was less than was paid for one of Bulwer-Lytton's; Gay's favourite chair was knocked down for £30, Theodore Hook's for £19, Mrs. Siddons' for £7, and Mrs. Browning's for a £5 note; while £3 10s. purchased a chair of Thackeray's, and the same price was realized for one of Walter Savage Landor's.

Such prices are trivial indeed compared with the £40,000 paid for a wonderful chair presented more than three centuries ago to the Emperor Rudolph II. of Germany. The material of which it is made is steel, and it is covered with Biblical scenes executed

with the most wonderful delicacy and skill. On its back is a representation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream; while on another compartment is an exquisite engraving of Daniel explaining his dream to the King. For thirty long years one of the greatest of sixteenth-century artists laboured on this chair—a fact which goes far to explain the enormous sum paid for it. In later years it was sold to Gustavus Brander for 1,800 guineas, and for a third of this sum it came into the hands of the Earl of Radnor.

Enormous prices have been paid for chairs in recent years, notably £20,000 for a set of half-a-dozen Louis XIV. chairs, upholstered in Gobelin tapestry, which were originally made for Marie Antoinette. Even this price, by the way, was exceeded by the sums paid for three of the Hamilton Palace tables, one of which fetched £6,000; another, a Louis Quinze, £5,500; and a third of ebony with wreaths of ormolu, £3,200. One secretaire went for 9,000 guineas; and another was knocked down for £4,620. From such prices as these there is a great drop to the £320 paid to a Birmingham firm by an Indian rajah for a gorgeous chair of cut crystal with a crystal dome fitted with electric lights.

A most valuable and historically interesting suite of furniture is that which, more than a century ago, was presented by Warren Hastings to Tipoo Sahib, and which was purchased at the London sale for 1,000 guineas. The suite consists of a card-table, a sofa, two small cabinets, and four arm-chairs, "all of solid ivory most exquisitely carved. But probably the most costly chair in the world is one of the many treasures of the Shah of Persia. It is of solid gold—thickly encrusted with diamonds, rubies, pearls, and sapphires; and its value is estimated at half a million pounds. In the House of Commons at Westminster, we must not forget, are two armchairs which once belonged to the late Mr. Gladstone, and one of which was his favourite seat when at Downing Street.

A short time ago a romantic story was told in the French papers of two dilapidated arm-chairs which were sold among the effects of a Mme. Borg, a widow who died at Dellys, an Algerian seaport town. The widow was reputed to be rich, but a thorough search of her rooms failed to disclose any of her hoardings; and it was assumed by her relatives that she had died practically penniless.

No long, however, after the sale of her furniture it was observed that the purchaser of the chairs, a Spanish stevedore named Perez, ceased to work, began to walk about in fine clothes, to purchase land and houses, and generally gave evidence of having come into a fortune. Suspicion being aroused, Perez was arrested and now stands accused of having appropriated to his own use the old lady's fortune, of at least 100,000fr., which had been concealed by her in the dilapidated armchairs.—*Tit Bits*.

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This book indicates the method by which the mystery of life may be solved, its delusion dispelled, and individual national, racial, human advancement towards perfection, if attainable on this planet, can be achieved.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 10, 1906.

IN MEMORIAM—THE LATE SIR JOHN BUDD PHEAR.

BY A. B. L.

Of the many eminent Judges who, in the early and palmy days of our High Court, were wisely selected from the English Bar to fill, and who adorned, this high office, the late Sir John Budd Phear has left a brilliant record. We have in our last article (*Reis*, April 15, 1905) on the subject given a brief summary of his early life and antecedents in England as well as of his Indian career as an able and fearless Judge and as a distinguished Anglo-Indian, who, during his sojourn in this land, had retained to the full his inborn nobility of character as a true Englishman and who had, by his conduct in private relations, earned the loving esteem and grateful admiration of the people, by reason of his strenuous and sympathetic labours in all movements and spheres of activity calculated to advance the progress and well-being, moral, intellectual and social, of our countrymen. In this and subsequent issues, we shall feign dwell at some length on the prominent traits and features of his character and work as a Judge, by making short extracts, where necessary, from the learned judgments he delivered, on some of the most crucial and difficult points of law, that came up, time to time, for adjudication before him. Because, we think, that in any attempt, however imperfect, to give a faithful portraiture of a judicial functionary, it is better to exhibit him in the dry and pure light in which he appears in his own recorded utterances and acts than to give merely and exclusively our individual opinion and estimate, based as the same may be on the unerring and mature verdict of the public.

Endowed with deep and varied learning, an erudite and accomplished scholar and a mathematician of reputation, possessing a keen interest and great capacity of close and abstruse reasoning, a calm, patient and genial temper, of courteous and dignified manner, unflagging zeal and industry, and, above all, sturdy independence and a profound consciousness of the dignity and immense responsibilities of his office, it was a delight and a privilege to see the late Judge, sitting on the Bench, especially on the Original Side of the Court, and hearing cases and arguments of learned Counsel and guiding them in the proper conduct of a case by giving prompt and authoritative rulings and directions on the admissibility or otherwise of evidence or on the proper mode and legitimate limits of examination of witnesses, and, finally, delivering exhaustive and long judgments, very often extempore, couched in well-balanced sentences of chaste and racy English, pronounced in clear, sonorous and silvery accents audible to all and devoid, as much as possible, of all dry, dull and unnecessary details and commonplaces which encumber the pronouncements of the ordinary routine Judge. Whatever other ordinary and temporary advantages a Barrister Judge of solely Indian forensic experience may have, we are by no means sure, whether, like a counsel who had for a good many years breathed the free atmosphere of Westminster Hall or even of the County Courts of England and had gathered experience and knowledge of public life in that land of freedom, he could rise to the height of his position and could, in all cases, take a view of a matter, entirely detached from and independent of preconceived

ed ideas and local associations and colouring. It would be a severe demand on human nature to expect such a thing. And accordingly, we are not surprised to find occasional outbursts of temper from the Bench or strange and unpremeditated methods of dealing offhand with arduous and complicated questions of law and procedure, which one would seldom find in a trained English Barrister. If our High Court is to maintain the noble prestige and traditions of the late Supreme Court, of which it is the legal heir and successor though shorn partly of its great power and privileges and emoluments, and to continue to be the visible embodiment of justice, pure and undefiled, holding the scales equal between parties of all races, colours and creeds, without fear and favour, we know of no more potent and effective means of securing it than that the personnel of the Court should have a strong if not predominant admixture of the best available legal talent of the English Bar, like the late Sir John Phear and his many illustrious colleagues and predecessors on the Bench, whom it would be invidious to name and single out from a long roll beginning with Macnaughten and ending with Sir Barnes Peacock, men of ripe experience, of high character, and kindly sympathies for our land and people, men clear-headed and distinguished, imbued with a lofty conception of the sacredness of a Judge's function, with fearless independence and strong hatred of wrong and oppression, and a just regard for the rights and liberties of all classes and conditions of people. This is a beau ideal of a judge of the highest tribunal of the land, charged with the duty of dispensing justice to millions of different nationalities and religions, and the memory of one who could approach nearest to this ideal, as Sir John Phear did, cannot fail to be cherished with loving remembrance by us. If, unfortunately, there be any lapse or falling off from this high standard in any one of them, at any time, which we would fain hope and trust there may not be, it would be productive of incalculable mischief to the best and highest interests of the country, and will be a deep blot on the fair fame and glorious annals of the Court. Although we would severely deprecate and view with just alarm and indignation any external interference with the judicial independence and discretion of our highest Courts, still when they are led to exhibit a deplorable weakness and a strange obliquity of judgment in cases in which particular classes or individuals are concerned, we would almost wish there were some higher authority on the spot, be it executive or administrative, or of any other category, to sharply awaken the judicial conscience and mitigate, if possible, the mischievous consequences of grave failure of justice. Lord Lytton would not have been led, on a memorable occasion, to write his famous minute on the Fuller Case and to manifest his noble sense of justice and fair play, though in a way hardly justified by sound judicial principle, if the matter had ever come under the judicial cognizance of a judge of the stamp of the late Sir John Phear.

Immediately after joining the High Court here in 1864, Mr. Phear perceived that in order to be a successful Judge of facts able to grasp and properly weigh and estimate evidence in the determination particularly of original suits, it was indispensable to possess a correct knowledge of the language, habits and customs of the people and a genuine insight into their inner life and ways of thought.

He therefore lost no time in engaging the services of a tutor in Hindustani and Bengali, an old Bengali gentleman in the line whose occupation was to teach a generation of high officials, Civilian and Ecclesiastical, whom he highly respected and loved and liberally patronised and assisted in founding and maintaining a High Class English School in his native town outside the precincts of Calcutta. It was at his said tutor's suggestion that he and his beloved consort, adopted, as we have already noticed, the tender and expressive feminine name Kamini, for their daughter in testimony of their attachment to and regard for Indians, with all the lovely associations and simple surroundings of their home life and family. Such incidents now-a-days would be considered as rather eccentric and unconventional, but it is these little instances which show the generous impulses and character of the man in a far more convincing way than eloquent but hollow declaration of sympathy and love for India, which our rulers and administrators find so easy to indulge in. In addition to this regular self-imposed study of the native dialects which, however, is not at all indispensable for a High Court Judge to perform his proper duties, as he gets everything material to a case dressed up in English for ready comprehension, Mr. Phear mixed freely and equally with the educated natives whom his liberal instincts and magnanimous nature and his direct and intimate knowledge led to look upon as not, in any material degree, inferior to his own race in the essential attributes of our common humanity, or deficient in culture or knowledge, or wanting in the graces and manners of virtuous and dignified life. This sympathy for and close touch and association with Indian life and pursuits, not of course with Shikar and other parties, given by rich magnates and titled aristocrats for some ulterior purposes in loyal submission to hints received from high quarters, but with the life and pursuits of the middle class, the brain and heart of the country, that stood him in good stead in acquiring valuable experience in various relations and activities of his beneficent career in our midst which he had hoped and we deeply deplore, Providence had denied to him the opportunity, to utilise in the service of this land in the Legislative Chamber of his Island home. He was so constituted by nature that he would take no particular care to court or cultivate familiarity with Viceroys and Lieutenant Governors.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, UNITED PROVINCES.

THE Administration Report of Agra and Oudh for 1904-1905 is a pleasant one in spite of disasters. It is in time to catch the eyes of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. Notwithstanding its reduced size, by order of the late Viceroy, it is good reading.

To the Indian mind a prosperous year is one of good harvest, a low death-rate and an increase in manufactures and trades, and so on. The official tests of increase in revenue under different heads may or may not be the true criterion of the prosperity of our people. As we know, realisation of Government revenue is of too exacting a nature.

The kharif crop was favourable. A succession of severe frosts considerably damaged the rabi crops. The average outturn for the whole province was about 65 per cent. of a normal crop. The gross produce of both harvests was 30 per cent. less than in the pre-

ceding year, though the cultivated area was greater. The cold was a record one, at Allahabad, the minimum temperature was 18° one night.

The jail population was slightly greater than in 1903. It is said that separate confinement at night has increased the deterrent effects of imprisonment. Even when the gross produce of harvests was 30 per cent. less than in the previous year, there was a decrease in the total volume of crime. The official general prosperity theory does not seem to hold good here, as the harvest of 1904 was less by one-third, and the year 1903 had more crimes, though with less decoity and robbery. Next we come to Public Health. In spite of the prevalence of plague, the past official year was fairly healthy, the birth-rate rose, and the death-rate dropped to the normal level. The excess of births over deaths was more than one per cent. Plague was much more severe, but missed out many places; it increased the death-rate by only 3·75 per thousand. Mortality from fever, measles and cholera was less and that from small-pox was normal.

The jail administration was excellent as regards the health of the prisoners. The death-rate was only 14·5 per thousand, the lowest ever known. Of the 167 juvenile prisoners, there were boys of tender age who ought not to have been sent to jail. Want of discretion on the part of the magistrates cannot too highly be condemned.

Under the head of Manufactures, the number of factories for ginning and pressing rose from 100 to 106. One of the four tanneries of Cawnpore was closed. Four new iron and brass foundries were established at Agra, Chaudauli (Benares), Bara Banki and Fyzabad. Nine lac factories were declining, six new oil mills were opened at Cawnpore and Meerut. The case of indigo seems hopeless. There was no new departure in handicrafts.

Several railway extensions were opened, the most important being the Agra-Delhi Chord line. Reduction of rates facilitated traffic. Under imports we notice a rise of about 12 per cent. in value. The increase occurred chiefly in cotton goods from Calcutta, stone and lime from Rajputana and Central India for railway construction and grain from the Punjab. "The imports of European yarn and piece-goods recovered with an improvement in general prosperity; in bad times people had to be satisfied with Indian commodities." The prosperity of India is thus dependent on the use of European goods. The more the import of European yarn and piece-goods, the greater is the prosperity of India. While, on the other hand, the more use of Indian commodities is indicative of India's greater adversity. The present spirit of Swadeshim can therefore bode only evil. The more intense it is, the greater is the decline and quicker the passage to ruin and extinction. Why, then, the crusade against Bande Mataram? If the principle shadowed forth in the Report be true and wise, Government is certainly more actuated, in its acts of suppression of the present movement, for the welfare of the Indians than the Indians themselves, who, less ignorant, may not know their own interest. Children of superstitious faiths, they dig their own graves, which our civilized rulers feel bound to prevent by importation of their own articles, if not of faith, of daily use and consumption. The importation of sugar declined, though the quantity received, via Calcutta, apparently from Java, increased. The impetus given by

the Swadeshi movement to indigenous articles is expected to affect every imported article, especially such as are produced in this country. It must take its course. We wait to see from official reports how far the agitation is put into practice. The more orthodox of the United Provinces seem to avoid the use of imported sugar. The exports are said to be the largest on record. The percentage of increase as compared with the previous year was 16·5 in weight, and 10·4 in value. The export trade in grain, oil seeds and cotton advanced. Nearly 5 lakhs of maunds more cotton was exported because the crop covered a larger area, Bombay finding twice as much as Calcutta. Hides and skins increased on account of rise in prices and of mortality among cattle. Anthrax caused great mortality among cattle: "Inoculation was restricted by a deficiency of serum."

Considering the extent of the Provinces, the 508 dispensaries are not enough. "The total of patients treated at dispensaries of all kinds, amounted to about one-tenth of the population. The District and Municipal Boards may find their way to spend more liberally on medical relief. It is to be regretted that the want of trained hospital assistants prevented some dispensaries from being opened. We note with satisfaction that the number of visits paid to women at their homes by female doctors and female hospital assistants has increased by thousands. It is hard to believe that, owing to the distrust engendered by rumour about plague, there was a decrease in the number of patients at female dispensaries. It may be that the increase of female medical practitioners has decreased the number of female patients. Indian women are unwilling to go out for treatment.

The number of municipalities fell to 89, as 15 were converted into notified areas from the beginning of the year. Of so many municipalities, only three had non-official chairmen. Until the non-official gentlemen come forward to take greater interest in the affairs of our civic institutions, we cannot congratulate the municipalities on their success. When the attendance at meetings is said to be "generally satisfactory," there does not seem to be any lack of interest shown by the members. The year was a good one from a financial point of view. The income rose and there was a saving in expenditure. Municipalities were relieved of the whole or half of the Police charges. Liberal assistance was given by the Imperial and the Provincial Governments. The progress made in the larger works of drainage and water works fell short of expectations, because, as the Report says, the Sanitary Engineer had too much to occupy his time. The expenditure on education was only 4·7 per cent. of the net income.

It is said that under the new system the financial position of the Local Boards is much stronger and the people's representatives' control of the money will be much greater. The hope is entertained in the Report that this enhancement of their powers will cause the members to take more interest in their public duties.

Is it the Government that is anxious to enhance the powers of the people, or the people that have won the confidence of Government?

BANDE MATARAM.

THREE English renderings of Bankim's *Bande Mataram* have already appeared, two in the *Bengalee* and one in the *Indian Mirror*. Our poetical friend has made another translation. We give it below with the original Bengali, from the 5th edition (1892) of "Anandamat." P. L. M. S. attempts to be more literal than those before him. His rendering is besides more explanatory. It is to be noted that the twelfth line in the original

অবলা কেন মা এত বলে।

is a correction of

কে বলে মা তুমি অবলে।

The correction was made by Bankim himself. It has been followed by the present translator and should be adopted by all. We would draw special attention to the last but one line of the new translation, which is very different from the other three. In them none understands the word *Bharani* as referring to the constellation of that name. *Bharani* or *Musca* is the name of the second lunar mansion, containing three stars, which, in the present case, are intended for the three eyes of the great Goddess *Durga*. In Hindu belief, this constellation of 3 stars, presiding over a birth, impregnates it with manly qualities, of both body and mind.

The Original.

"বন্দে মাতরম্"

সুজলাং সুফলাং

মণরজগীতগাং

শতশ্রাংলাং

মাতরম্।

শুভ-ক্লোয়াংমা-পুণকিত-যামিনীম্

ফুলফুলমিত-কন্দলশোভিনীম্

সুহাসিনীং স্তমধুরভাষিণীম্

সুখদাং বরদাং মাতরম্।

সপ্তকোটীকণ্ঠকলকলনিদানকরাণে,

দ্বিসপ্তকোটীকুণ্ঠৈশ্বৰ্য-তথ-করবালে,

অবলা কেন মা এত বলে।

বহুবলধারিণীং

নমামি তারিণীং

রিপদলবারিণীং

মাতরম্।

তুমি বিত্তা তুমি ধন্য

তুমি হৃদি তুমি মৰ্য

কংহি প্রাণাঃ শরীরে।

বাহতে তুমি মা শক্তি

হৃদয়ে তুমি মা ভক্তি

তোমারই প্রতিমা গড়ি

মন্দিরে মন্দিরে।

ংহি দুর্গা দশপ্রহরণধারিণী

কমলা কমল-দলবিহারিণী

বাণী বিভাদারিণী

নমামি ত্বাং

নমামি কমলাং

অমলাং অমলাম্

সুজলাং সুফলাম্

মাতরম্

বন্দে মাতরম্

ভায়লাং সরলাম্

সুখিতাং সুখিতাম্

ধরণীং ভরণীম্

মাতরম্।"

The Translation.

My Mother, I Thy glory sing !

Of waters sweet, Thou fertile fair,

Refreshed by cool, ambrosial air,

With verdant corn, Thy verdure rare,

My Mother !

Thy clear, ecstatic, moon-lit night,

Deck blooming, florid trees Thy beauty bright,

Thy smile benign,

Thy speech divine,

Thou Giver of all bliss, to bless is Thine,

My Mother !

With sev'n crore throats dost Thou tumultuous,

terrific roar,

And eager blades in hands hold twice as many more,

A helpless woman Thou,

With might so vast, I know not how.

Thy arm is strong, our saviour, bow to Thee I low,

Confounder of the foe,

My Mother !

And Thou art knowledge, Thou art faith,

Thou art the heart, the seat of heart and breath,

Thou art organic life in bodies drest,

Thou strength in arm, devotion in the breast,

Thy image we in temples mould.

Art Durgā Thou Who dost ten weapons hold,

Kamala tripping gay the lotus leaves among,

Bless the Giver fair of learning and of song,

Of science, craft and all,

I humbly at thy feet do fall.

To Thee I bow, Kamala pure, without compare,

Of waters bright, Thou fertile fair,

My Mother !

My Mother, I Thy glory sing !

Thou smooth, green earth, adorned with smiles of spring.

And Bharani three-ey'd Thou who dost manly merits

bring,

My Mother !

P. L. M. SALAAM.

It is not beyond the limits of possibility that Mr. F. H. Skrine may return to India, for a tour, which would embrace Japan and the United States. He has been intensely occupied since May last in writing a history of the War of the Austrian Successions, 1740-8, which Messrs Blackwood will publish in May, with an introduction from Lord Roberts' pen. It will tell the whole story of the siege of Pondicherry and the capture of Madras by La Bourdonnais in 1747.

MR. JUSTICE PARGITER has obtained permission to resign His Majesty's Indian Civil Service from the 14th March or any subsequent date on which he may sail from India or relinquish charge of office in the event of his not taking subsidiary leave.

Mr. Justice Geidt has been granted furlough from the 22nd March to the 30th August.

Mr. H. Holmwood, District and Sessions Judge, on special duty, officiates as a Judge of the High Court from the date Mr. Justice Pargitor relinquishes charge. Mr. C. P. Caspersz, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, officiates as a Judge of the High Court during the absence of Mr. Justice Geidt. The place rendered vacant by the departure of the barrister Judge Mr. Justice Henderson on furlough, has been filled by Mr. E. W. Ormond, Barrister-at-Law, Chief Judge of the Presidency Small Cause Court Calcutta.

MR. R. R. Pope, Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas and Hooghly, acts as the District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas. Mr. C. P. Beachcroft, Officiating Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, has been appointed Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas and Hooghly.

IN the Small Cause Court, each of the other judges gets a lift to his next higher place, that is, Mr. H. L. Bell becomes the Chief Judge; Mr. Abul Hassan, the second; Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, the third; Mr. C. D. Panjoty the fourth, Judge. The last place is given to Bibu Bipin Behari Mukerji, Subordinate Judge, 24-Parganas.

As in the Court of Small Causes, so also in the Calcutta Police Courts, each second is allowed to stand heir to the first. Mr. D. Swinhoe, the second stipendiary Presidency Magistrate, acts as Chief Presidency Magistrate, and Judge of the Court for the trial of Pilots, vice Mr. D. H. Kingsford. Bibu Ram Anugraha Narain Singh, the third, becomes the second stipendiary magistrate. Maulvi Syed Mahomed Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, is made a Presidency Magistrate, and officiates as the third stipendiary Presidency Magistrate.

Instead of one Civilian, one Barrister and one of the Provincial Service, we have one Barrister and two Deputy Magistrates. In place of two Europeans and one Indian, we are given one European and two Indians—a Hindu and a Mussalman. When Mr. Weston was appointed Chief Presidency Magistrate, there was a kind of assurance that the new Civilian rule in the Calcutta Police Courts would be for only two years. That period has already been exceeded by more than four months (Mr. Weston assumed charge on the 21st October 1903). Will the present retirement, on leave, of Mr. Kingsford see the end of the Civilian supremacy in the Police Courts of Calcutta? Mr. Weston cared little for law, and Mr. Kingsford has been equally reckless.

If the Civilian rule is to end in the Calcutta Police Courts, that rule is to be renewed in the Education Department. While re-introducing the Barrister rule in the Calcutta Police Courts, Sir Andrew Fraser seems prepared, against all protests, to appoint a Civilian as Director of Public Instruction to succeed Sir Alexander Pedler, about to retire.

THERE was an Evening Party, at the Town Hall, on Monday, the 5th March, held by the Association for the Advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education of Indians. The occasion was to bid farewell to 44 students going to East and West for Industrial Education. Among those present who wished the 44 success was the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Sir Andrew Fraser

"Hoped that having acquired fresh knowledge abroad they (the students) would come back to exercise good influence in India. He was glad to have an opportunity of shaking hands with all the students and finding out to which countries they were going. He noticed that most of them were going to Japan and though he would have preferred them to have gone to Great Britain or the United States, he was sure that they had much to learn in Japan."

In responding to the vote of thanks to the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Fraser, Sir Andrew Fraser said:

"Lady Fraser was taking a great interest in the students, and though he was a father himself, and a father's blessing counts for much, a mother's blessing is better still."

Here Sir Andrew Fraser proved himself at once a wise administrator, an affectionate father and a dutiful husband. He touched a chord which could not but endear him to the home-loving Bengali. He is himself fond of home. Always cheered by the presence of his wife, he loves to correspond with his distant children. The Christian day of rest he sets apart for that last purpose. On this subject, Major General Sir Henry Marion Durand advised his daughter, thus:

"4th May, 1858.

You ask me if I object to your writing letters on a Sunday. I do it myself, and though the fact of my doing

so would not render that right which was wrong, I must tell you why I do not consider it wrong. Except in cases of necessity I pen no official letters on a Sunday, because that is week day work, and the Sunday's rest and freedom from work I consider should be, where practicable, maintained. But...we must observe the Sunday in Christ's spirit and that of our own church, which only aims at obeying Christ, not in the spirit of the Scribes and Pharisees. I don't think many people, even grown-up people, are able to occupy their minds and hearts the whole Sunday with prayer, contemplation, and the perusal of the bible or other religious works. I am certain that young people cannot, and that it is very undesirable to teach them to pretend to do so. Among healthy, mentally healthy, recreations letters written to relations seem to come naturally; and provided your letter writing was not made the business of the Sunday, but only taken as a recreation, provided your mind and heart was not absorbed by letter writing to the exclusion of the spiritual culture for which Sunday affords the opportunity, I should not object to letter writing. But here, dear child, as in so many other instances, the question lies between God and our own conscience. If we love God, we should not find it difficult to settle the question. Wherever we love anybody, the heart and mind find no difficulty in measuring what amount of time or attention we shall pay them. It comes naturally.....God is love, and the love of Christ brushes away all cobwebs by its wisdom."

The parental solicitude breathing in the words of Sir Andrew Fraser, on behalf of his better half or in the Curzonian phrase "better-three-quarters" and of himself, for His Majesty's subjects consigned to his care, reminds the readers of the Ramayana of the mother's claim to bless the son. In bidding farewell to Rama, who, to preserve the honour of his father and King and through the King the righteousness of the Administration, goes into exile, his mother Kausalya speaks in the following strain

Go forth, dear child whom naught can bend
And may all bliss thy steps attend,
Thou wilt return, and I that dear day
Will chase mine every grief away.
Thou wilt return, thy duty done,
Thy vows discharged high glory won;
From final death will thou be free,
And sweetest joy will come to me.
Go, strong of arm, go forth, my boy,
Go forth, again to come with joy,
And thine exultant mother cheer
With those sweet tones so loves to hear.

Such words with happy omens fraught
To her dear son she said,
Invoking with each eager thought
A blessing on his head.

There is no love like mother's love. More than a mother's love is likened in a Bengali phrase to the affection of a witch.

THE "Weekly Chronicle" is a cheap newspaper with annual subscription of Rs. 4. It is "mainly devoted to social, political and educational topics." It has a press of its own and is published at Sylhet every Wednesday. It is registered at the Post Office, though not at that of the Director General of Telegraphs. It is in its seventh volume or year. The number for February 28 opens with the leader "Government Boycott of the Weekly Chronicle (A statement of the case and its general issues)." On the 13th December, 1905, there appeared in it, the following

"Gurkha oppression at Barisal.—One Gurkha suddenly fell upon a mehter woman on duty in a plain grove and attempted rape on her. Her cries attracted people and the Gurkha took to heels. The victim made a statement to the Chairman. The Mehters were enraged and chafing under the insult."

On the 7th January 1906, the Chief Secretary to the new Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam wrote to the editor informing him that

"It (the above paragraph) is a gross misstatement. The sweeper woman, who was assaulted did not charge a Gurkha with the offence, and refused to sign a complaint to this effect which was drafted for her signature."

The Chief Secretary's letter concludes, thus :

"The Lieutenant Governor considers that you should publicly retract the statement and offer an ample apology for its publication, and he will be glad to learn whether you propose to do so, and whether, in that case, you will forward for his information the draft of the retraction and apology which you propose to publish."

Mr. S. C. Sinha, the editor, explained

"That in so far as the allegation was that an attempt had been made by the Gurkha to outrage the woman and that she had made a statement before the Municipal Chairman to that effect, I should not be justified in making a retraction, while the point raised in your letter under reply that she refused to sign the complaint, which was drafted for her signature, does not seem to affect the position of the Chronicle."

Thereafter the supply to the journal of the Gazette of the Province was discontinued, and the editor was further informed by the Chief Secretary

"That Government support has been withdrawn from your paper owing to your refusal to retract the untruthful report you published in the matter of the alleged assault upon a sweeper woman by a police sepoy of Barisal."

The old method of punishing an inconvenient journal was deportation. In spite of the several laws forged, since the freeing of the press by Sir Charles, afterwards Lord, Metcalfe from Adam's regulations, to fetter the press, the new method adopted is withdrawal of Government support, in the shape of supply of information and advertisements and, possibly, subscription. The regular way is not followed, but a tortuous course is chosen. This is not in keeping with the dignity of a great Government. The Hon'ble the East India Company were certainly more honourable than the present-day officers of the Crown in their punishment of offending journals. They never thought of the present plan of making journals feel the might of Government. In India, as yet, no journal, specially of the native section, can hope to live and prosper without Government aid. To withhold that support is to starve a newspaper—possibly to death. That is cruelty, not punishment. The next question is—Is it open to Government to resent the action of a journal like any private individual outside the law? It may be the duty of Government to proceed against an erring newspaper according to law. By enacting laws against the press, Government abandons all other courses that may be open, say, to private persons, beyond the laws of the realm. What is to be said of a Government that pampers an all-obedient journal that finds nothing wrong in that Government and tries always to justify its acts? A journal, whether agreeable to Government or not, does no small service to Government by publishing its acts and interpreting them to the governed or informing it of the wishes of the people, their intentions and their want. What is the return for that service?

Regarding the Punjab Outrages Bill, Sir Henry Marion Durand who had objections to the measure, wrote to Lord Stanley in March 1867:

"Our officers, however, are getting timid, not only on that frontier, but everywhere else, from the overflow of legal trammels, which cripple and manacle our executive, and are mere cobwebs against the tiger masses the executive has to deal with.....We cannot hold the country by barristers and High Courts and laws. The people neither read nor understand, and it is ruining our executive administration in its efficient action....."

The Sylhet "Chronicle" seems to be the victim of such executive vigour.

LONDON, Mar. 2. The Commons have read for the second time the Labour Members Bill, empowering the local authorities to feed underfed school children, with the option of recovering the cost from parents or not. Mr. Birrell said he did not object to trying the experiment. Mr. Burns

said that the Government would endeavour to secure the passage of the Bill this Session.

LONDON, Mar. 3. A Japanese Famine Relief Fund has been opened at the Mansion House.

The Victorian Government is forwarding fifty tons of flour to Japan.

Sir Marcus Samuel heads the Mansion House Japanese Famine Fund with a thousand pounds sterling.

London, Mar. 4. The Stock Exchange has subscribed ten thousand pounds to the Japanese Famine Fund.

London, Mar. 6. A subscription has been opened at Ottawa for the relief of the famine in Japan.

London, Mar. 8. The Toronto Sunday School Association has made a stirring appeal for subscriptions to the Japanese Famine Fund.

LONDON, Mar. 3. A tornado has caused wholesale havoc over the meridian of Mississippi. Twenty-five whites and over a hundred negroes have been killed.

LONDON, Mar. 4. There was a disastrous tornado in the Society Islands on 7th February; whole settlements were destroyed, the inhabitants are starving, and damage done is enormous. A huge mortality is also reported.

London, Mar. 6. An official despatch published in Paris says that, though 327 houses were destroyed at Papeiti in the Society Islands' tornado, only one life was lost.

LONDON, Mar. 7. The Commons have agreed to defray the official election expenses, from the public funds.

The Government has suffered an actual defeat over the motion, to appoint a committee to enquire into the position of postal employees.

The Labourites are supporting the Unionist in asserting the rights of minorities in representation on committee. The Unionist amendment, extending the scope of committees, in reference to all departments, was accepted by the Government.

London, Mar. 8. The House of Commons by 248 votes against 110 have adopted a resolution to pay Members three hundred pounds yearly.

MILITARY ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA.

From—The Right Hon'ble John Morley, O.M., Secretary of State for India,

To—His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council.

I have considered in Council Your Excellency's communication of 23rd January, and the new draft rules of Business proposed by the Government of India, in conformity with the request made by my predecessor in his despatch of 31st May 1905, and repeated in his telegram of 21st November.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,
Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.,
Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna,
Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal,
Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyay
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vikshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408 9 6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

2. The policy set out in that despatch was designed to put an end to an alleged conflict between the Military Department of the Government of India and the Commander-in-Chief as head of the Army; to do away with a troublesome and superfluous duplication of work and to concede to the Commander-in-Chief "greater freedom of working." With these objects in view, the Military Department was to be transformed into a branch of administration confined to contracts, ordnance, military stores, works, and the like. The Commander-in-Chief, on the other hand, was to be placed in charge of a newly designated Army Department, which would be invested with all the duties and powers of which the old Military Department had been stripped save those comprehended under the name of Military Supply.

3. Changes such as these, it is manifest, could easily be made to raise the largest questions of military organization in India, such, for example, as were handled in the Commission of 1879, and on some other occasions. The scheme itself was inevitably open to many criticisms both of principle and detail, and to these it was abundantly subjected from various quarters. Is not the combination, it was asked, of the active duties of executive command with the duties of general military administration, a burden too heavy for any one man, however capable and energetic, to support? Can the accidents of personality be overlooked, and the difference between a Commander-in-Chief with special aptitude and predilection for training, discipline, manoeuvres, mobilization, and all the conduct of actual war; and a Commander-in-Chief of another type who excels, and might perhaps have been expressly appointed because excelling, in the sphere of office administration and preparation? How is one system to fit each of these two types? What again, is to happen in this important sphere of office administration and organization, if the Member in charge of the Army Department, in his other capacity of Commander-in-Chief, is called away to duties in the field? Ought not the Member in charge of Military Supply to be a civilian rather than a soldier? On the other hand, is it indispensable that purely military proposals by the Commander-in-Chief should always be formally submitted to criticism from other military experts, provided always that the Governor General in Council exercises actual and decisive control where any political or financial question, great or small, directly or indirectly arises? And might not that control be more impaired by a possible concert between two different military authorities under the old system—and I understand that such cases have not been unknown—that by a single military authority with unshared military responsibility, such as is contemplated under the new?

4. These are some of the points have been brought into view by the despatch of 31st May 1905, and in the proceedings that followed it. Your Excellency is familiar with them all, and it would be waste of time, under our present circumstances, for me to ask you to travel over ground so well trodden. Into the great fundamental questions of military systems His Majesty's Government do not consider that the occasion of this despatch calls upon them to enter. They have to deal with an actual emergency, and to terminate a deadlock that, apart from a mischievous rise of temperature in discussion to a point considerably above normal, cannot become other than detrimental to effective administration of the Army itself.

When your Excellency assumed the responsibilities of your great office last November, and I became Secretary of State a few weeks later, it was no tabula rasa that we found. A proposed scheme had been agreed upon in principle, with whatever reluctance and qualification, between the Secretary of State in Council and the Governor General in Council, with the concurrence of

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

General Election of Commissioners.

It is hereby notified for general information that in exercise of the powers vested in the Local Government by Section 53 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to fix Tuesday, the 20th March 1906 as the date for holding the Second General Election of the Ward Commissioners of the Corporation of Calcutta under Section 43, Sub-Section (3) of Act III (B.C.) of 1899.

2. The Election will take place between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Intending candidates should send in their names to the Chairman not less than fourteen days before the day fixed for Election, duly proposed, seconded and approved as required by Rule 2, Schedule 5 of Act III (B.C.) of 1899.

C. G. H. ALLEN,

Chairman of the Corporation.

Dated 20th February 1906.

the Commander-in-Chief, last July. This compromise among conflicting opinions as to the best way of meeting an admitted desirableness of some improvement and readjustment in the position of the Military Department, His Majesty's Government do not think it wise to reopen, nor by a stroke of the pen to dismiss, at the risk of an indefinite prolongation of fruitless and injurious controversy. On a survey of the practical circumstances of the case they are convinced that it would be altogether inexpedient to break off Your Excellency's labours in working out the plan of last summer, in accordance with the request addressed by my predecessor to the Governor General of that day. Accordingly, the task that Your Excellency had undertaken proceeded. It is impossible not to recognize the care, fidelity, and diligence, with which those labours on a vexed and thorny question have been performed and His Majesty's Government owe Your Excellency their thanks for the full and candid narrative in which you have taken pains to record what has passed.

5. The draft of the rules, in Your Excellency's language, "distributes the functions of the present Military Department between the proposed new Army Department and the Department of Military Supply"; and it amalgamates the new Army Department with the Army Headquarters under the control of the Commander-in-Chief as member of Council." You further explain in detail how effect is to be given to these objects, and what provision is to be made for the constitutional control of the Army. The cardinal object of maintaining the constitutional responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief to the Governor General in Council is to be secured by arranging "that the Secretary in the Army Department shall have full knowledge of the business of the department at every stage, from initiation to completion," so as to "be in a position to keep the Governor General fully informed upon every detail of military administration over which the Government of India exercises ultimate control." Your Excellency adds, however, the extremely important limitation "that although under my proposals the position of Secretary in the Army Department will differ somewhat from that of Secretaries in other departments, I regard this as unavoidable, and, in view of many safeguards provided for him, I consider his position as unassailable, and in no way inferior to theirs."

The Financial Department accepts as sufficient for their requirements the drafts altering them, and the other arrangements for securing complete financial control of military expenditure. The Member in charge of the department of Military Supply is to be in exactly the same position as any other Member of the Governor General's Council.

6. On the consideration of these changes, Your Excellency's Council found itself divided. Four Members of the Council dissented from the proposed alterations, and Your Excellency summarizes with marked clearness and good faith the line of their objections. The four dissentient Members, as you state their view, "object to the intended amalgamation of the Army Headquarters Staff with the Government of India's Secretariat." They hold strongly that, if the control of Government over the Army and its head is to be a reality, it is essential to keep the functions of the Commander-in-Chief as Executive Head of the Army, actually distinct from his functions as Member of Council in charge of the Army Department, and entitled in consequence to his orders in the name and with the authority of the Government of India." They insist "that the agencies through which these two distinct classes of function are respectively exercised should be kept separate. They object also to the position assigned to the Secretary in the Army Department, which differs from that of all the other Secretaries to Government, inasmuch as, instead of the whole business of the department passing through his hands from its inception and in ordinary course, much of it will reach him only after orders have been approved for signature, unless by the exercise of an invidious discretion he specially calls for papers. They attach special importance to a strong position for the Army Secretary, since, in the absence of the constitutional check provided in civil matters by the existence of local governments with free access to Viceroy, his independence is the main security for effective control."

Such is Your Excellency's report of the attitude of those Members of Council who were unable to assent to the proposed plan.

On the other hand, the Commander-in-Chief, General Scott, and Mr. Baker regard these suggestions of their colleagues as impractical, as re-introducing that duplication of work of which complaint was made, and as likely to set up a system of administration at once inefficient and expensive. With those views Your Excellency agrees.

7. The proposed changes I have now examined with close attention in Council. The position of the Secretary of the Army Department is, as Your Excellency has always perceived, the pivot on which the discussions turn. Whether any rule that the wit of man could devise on paper would effectively secure the absolute independence of this representative of the Government of

India in the Army Department, and guarantee with certainty that the Governor General could make sure of competent information and counsel enabling him to test proposals coming to him from the Army Department, may be doubtful. But I am advised here unanimously, and I consider, that if the supremacy of the civil government is to be real and effectual, and if the Governor General in Council is to be in a position to fulfil the duty cast upon him by the Statute of 1833, of "superintending, directing, and controlling" military affairs in India, then it is necessary that the Secretary to the Government of India in the Army Department should have status, powers, duties, and responsibilities precisely similar to those of the Secretaries to the Government of India in the other departments.

The rules as drafted and forwarded to me by Your Excellency would appear to effect a practical amalgamation between the new Army Department and the Head-quarters Staff. The Commander-in-Chief becomes necessarily the head of both, and Rule 3 (a) provides that "papers and cases" may be submitted to him direct by various members of the Head-quarters Staff. It might thus happen, I conceive, that a very important matter might be submitted to the Commander-in-Chief (as Member in charge of the Army Department) by the Chief of the Staff, and might be placed before the Governor General in Council, although the Secretary of the Army Department would practically have had no opportunity of saying anything on the merits of the case. It would, as I understand, be quite impossible in any other Department—in the Financial Department, for instance,—that a matter should be thus dealt with by the Member in charge, without passing through the hands of the Secretary.

8. It appears to me that the members of the Army Head-quarters Staff, while continuing to perform as heretofore their duties as members of that staff in all matters in the control of the Commander-in-Chief as such, should, on the other hand, be departmental officers of the Army Department, though without any of the powers of a Secretary. In their two separate and distinct capacities the members of the Head-quarters Staff that is to say, the Chief of the General Staff, should such an officer be created, the Quarter-master-General, the Adjutant-General, the Director of Ordnance, the Principal Medical Officer, and the Military Secretary,—will thus perform two separate and distinct functions: one, the function appertaining to their respective duties as Members of the Head-quarters Staff pure and simple; the other, the function appertaining to their duties as officers of the Army Department. From this point of view it would be incorrect in fact, as it seems undesirable in principle, to speak of the amalgamation of the Army Head-quarters Staff with the Government of India Secretariat. For some purposes, and for those only, the members of the Head-quarters Staff will be brought within the Army Department.

It follows from this that no member of the Head-quarters Staff, when engaged on the work of the Army Department, should have any power to submit direct to the Member in charge of the Army Department (that is to say, to the Commander-in-Chief) any case in that department, or to issue in regard to such work in any order on behalf of the Government of India.

9. Now, in so far as the proposed rules do not keep the Army Department distinct from the Head-quarters Staff, and in so far as they put the Secretary of that department on a lower pedestal than other Secretaries they would depart from the intention of the scheme set forth in my predecessor's despatch of 31st May 1905 and accepted, though reluctantly, and subject to modifications, as I have already said, by Your Excellency's predecessor on 6th July 1905. To that extent I regret that I am unable to approve them.

Your Excellency's suggested draft rule 3 (a) should therefore, in my opinion, be omitted, and the reference to it in draft rule 3 should be struck out. These suggested alterations will necessitate the striking out of paragraph (IV) a draft rule 6 (a) as unnecessary. I also suggest that after the words "Advisory Council" in Draft Rule 6 (a) the words "and of the Mobilisation Committee" should be added, and paragraph (11) of that rule should be omitted. In draft rule (2) (b) after the words "Secretary of State" the words "in Council" should be added.

It further appears to me that the Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Supply Department should be a member of the Mobilisation Committee; that the Member in charge of the Military Supply Department should be a Member of the Defence Committee; and that the Governor General should have power to appoint for the time being to the Mobilisation Committee, the Defence Committee, and the Advisory Council, or to any or either of them, such person as he may consider advisable. I assume that any Member of the Mobilisation Committee may note upon any case before that Committee, and such note, when made, will form part of the case for submission to the Governor General in Council.

10. The object of these amendments is to make sure that

all matters, before they reach the Commander-in-Chief, as Member in charge of the Army Department, shall have passed through the hands of the Secretary.

I venture to hope that after considering the case as I have now put it, Your Excellency will regard this as a vital element in any scheme which is to be at once workable and constitutional.

In your other amendments I have only to express my concurrence.

11. With entire freedom from personal prepossession, anxious to avoid exaggerations, and strongly desiring to find myself in substantial accord with the Government of India, I have done my best to decide in Council the questions arising under the draft rules wholly upon their merits. I trust that the opinions expressed in this despatch will tend to compose a controversy too long outstanding; and will safeguard the fundamental principle that the Government of India, in all its branches, aspects and divisions, subject to the statutory powers of the Secretary of State, has been solemnly and deliberately confided by Parliament to the Governor General in Council.

12. Lord Lansdowne, in his speech in the House of Lords on 1st August 1905, said of the plan devised by my predecessor for reorganizing military administration in India; "There is no finality in these things, and a moment may come when it will be necessary to reconsider some of the details." This remains true. Meanwhile, as everybody will agree, far less depends upon the letter of the written rule, important as the written rules undoubtedly must be, than upon a spirit of harmonious co-operation in working them. That spirit I confidently anticipate Your Excellency will have the high good fortune to secure.

AN OLD SAILOR'S LIFE SAVED.

A retired sailor of the British Navy, Mr. Charles Harrison, now employed on the London, Chatham and Dover Railway as a signal fitter, lives at 19, Stewarts Lane West, Battersea, London, S. W. Up to January, 1905, Mr. Harrison always enjoyed good health, but then he suddenly began to "feel wrong." It was the beginning of a severe attack of indigestion, which lasted for months, and nearly cost him his life. How he was cured by using Mother Seigel's Syrup he tells you in this sworn statement, which is supported by the testimony of some of his friends and neighbours.

"I, Charles Harrison of 19, Stewarts Lane West, Battersea, in the County of London, do Solemnly, and sincerely declare as follows:—

"I feel in duty bound to register my testimony to the value of Mother Seigel's Syrup, for I know that it saved my life. About the middle of January last, I began to lose appetite, and all the snap seemed going out of me. I grew quite weak and thin, and suffered with head pains and dizziness. On the 7th of February I had to give up my work and declare on the club. I was in the doctor's hands for about a month, when I returned to work, and struggled on for a week or so; but I had to give in once more, and go back home worse than ever. I was now in a terrible state.

After eating I had terrible pains, and would sit with my knees drawn up to my chin, pressing my stomach, or roll across chairs, to relieve the agony. The only relief was when I managed to throw up all I had eaten. That was little; indeed, I was living, not on food, but on my own body, and from ever thirteen stone weight, I was reduced to about seven. I could hardly stand; I was dizzy, weak and often on the point of fainting. Next I went into hospital. Here they wanted to operate on me, but I would not consent, and came out as feeble as ever.

"Then I went to St. Margaret's Bay for the sea air, but I even lost more weight there. On returning to London I went to another hospital for five weeks, but derived no benefit whatever.

"About the middle of August I decided to give Mother Seigel's Syrup a trial, and got a bottle. It seems almost miraculous, but in a week or so I felt easier, and from that time steadily improved. All pain left me and I could eat again. On September 25 I went back to work, and though still weak I am quite cured of the disease. I eat heartily, and am rapidly getting up my strength again.

"And I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true, by virtue of the statutory Declarations Act of 1835 (Wm. IV. C. 62). (Signed) Charles Harrison." Declared at 31, Rochester Row, in the country of London, this 28th day of September, 1905, before me, Philip C. Conway, a Commissioner Oaths.

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OF

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corfi K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, 20th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memo v of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot" in its palmiest days under Kristoas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahman—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his usual biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western leaving. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or stinging after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or reproaching his ardor.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The *Pioneer*, (Allahabad) Oct 5, 1895

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VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,212.

CRY OF THE CHILDREN.

The need of religious education has been very forcibly set forth in some verses which appeared in "The Bristol Times and Mirror" on January 31st. As the title implies they were suggested by Mrs. Browning's, "Cry of the Children,"—"Tablet," Feb. 10, 1906.

Ye call us to school and college,
Ye bid us from street and lanes,
To enter the gates of knowledge
To gather the golden grain.

We are helpless, weak, unstable,
With hands and hearts untried ;
Ye need be wise and able
Who would the children guide.

Ye show unrolled before us
The story of the spheres,
The force that wields the lightning,
That paints the rainbow's tears.

The storms that sweep the ocean
Your wisdom can foretell ;
But the tempests of emotion,
Have they no laws as well ?

The world that lies within us
Is that we need to rule,
The lessons you should teach us
Are for life's larger school ;

And we must face the battle
We see our fathers fight ;
Give us some trusty weapon,
Show us some guiding light.

But your abstract speculation---
Will it help to do, to bear,
Through the whirlwind of temptation,
Through the midnight of despair ?

Will it solace Care's dull aching,
Will it soothe grief's bitter pain,
In a world where hearts are breaking
And the teardrops fall like rain ?

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Then the graveyard lies before us,
And its gates have opened wide
For children who last summer
Were playing by our side.

We know them and we love them,
We see them pass that door,
And the grass grows green above them,
Can you tell us nothing more ?

But some tell of a Master
Who once our footsteps trod,
Yet wears our human nature
High on the throne of God ;

Tender as listening mother
To childhood's feeble cries,
Strong in the strength of Godhead
To bid the dead arise.

Then let our fresh young spirits,
Our hearts yet undefiled,
Learn of the Mighty Teacher
Who blessed the little child.

Your hearts the world may harden,
Your faith Life's clouds may dim,
But suffer little children
Unstained to come to him.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THE ROYAL PROCESSION.

The commercial opening of the new Parliament---the second of his Majesty's reign---took place on Feb. 19, when the King went in State from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords and delivered his own Speech from the Throne.

At a quarter to 12 the police cleared the streets and diverted to without the route all traffic save carriages or cabs conveying members of Parliament or others attending the ceremony. Then came the soldiers to line the route, the order in which the Brigade of Foot Guards, under command of Col. the Hon. J. T. St. Aubyn was placed being---the 3rd Grenadiers from the Palace to Clarence Gate Road ; the 2nd Scots Guards to a point near the Duke of York's Steps ; the 3rd Scots Guards from the Steps to the Horse Guards Archway ; the 3rd Coldstream Guards along Whitehall to Derby Street, with the 2nd Grenadiers occupying the rest of the street space up to the Victoria Tower. The 1st Life Guards held the main thoroughfare approaches to Palace Yard, the mounted band of the regiment being stationed at the corner of Bridge Street and enlivening the time spent in waiting by the spectators with occasional strains of music. The foot soldiers wore over their uniforms their grey military coats, the bearskins, of course, being their headgear, while the Life Guards were in red cloaks, with burnished helmets, surmounted by nodding plumes.

Five carriages constituted the royal procession, which was shorn of one of its most interesting features by the absence from his Majesty's side in the state coach of his gracious consort, Queen Alexandra, whose sore bereavement has awakened a responsive sympathy in the hearts of all the subjects of the King. This was the first occasion on which the King has gone to open Parliament without the Queen being with him. The Prince and Princess of Wales, too, were missed, though their absence was happily due to the brilliant tour they are still continuing in his Majesty's Indian Empire. Other notable royal absentees were their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, who are now in South Africa, and Prince Arthur of Connaught, who is the King's special envoy to the Emperor of Japan.

The first three-carriages—dress landaus, each drawn by six bay horses—contained the Pages of Honour, the Exon of the Yeomen of the Guard, the Field Officer in Brigade Waiting, the Silver Stick in Waiting, the Groom in Waiting, the Duke of Manchester, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard; General Sir D. M. Probyn, Keeper of the Privy Purse; Lord Knollys, the King's Private Secretary; and the Master of Elibank, Comptroller of the Household. A fourth carriage, drawn by six black horses, conveyed Sir E. Strachey, M. P., Treasurer of the Household; Lord de Ros, Gold Stick in Waiting; and the Earl of Liverpool, Lord Steward. Then came, in the famous gilded State coach, his Majesty the King, seated opposite to whom was the Earl of Sefton, Master of the Horse. The King's two Equerries in Waiting—Major Ponsonby and the Hon. John Ward—rode alongside the coach, and the Royal Horse Guards formed an escort in front and in rear.

Throughout the route his Majesty was the recipient of most loyal greetings from his subjects.

While the scene outside Westminster Palace was less brilliant than usual owing to the use of greatcoats by the troops, there was little lack either of brightness or colour in the picture that met the King's eyes as he passed through the royal entrance beneath the Victoria Tower. Here were assembled the great officers of State and members of the Household, together with a gorgeous group of pursuivants and heralds, enquerries and ushers.

IN THE HOUSE

A great crowd of interested spectators had assembled in the Royal Gallery to watch the passage of the procession to the House of Lords. Soon after two o'clock the doors of the Robing Room were thrown open, the royal trumpeters sounded a fanfare, and his Majesty, preceded by those who had awaited him at the entrance, passed slowly through the gallery. The Sword of State was carried upright before the King by the Earl of Crewe, the Imperial Crown by the Marquess of Ripon and the Cap of Maintenance by the Marquess of Winchester, these State officials being, of course, in their peers' robes. The long train of the velvet robe was borne by two Pages of Honour, after whom walked the Earl of Sefton as Master of the Horse, the Earl of Liverpool as Lord Steward, the Duke of Manchester as Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, Earl Beauchamp as Captain of the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, and others. His Majesty bowed and smiled in acknowledgment of the respectful salutations with which he was greeted, and passed through the Princes' Chamber into the "Gilded Chamber."

For an hour before the arrival of the King the House of Lords began to fill with Peeresses and Peers, and the brilliancy of the scene grew quietly and unobtrusively. When his Majesty arrived the Chamber was thronged with an illustrious assembly. The front benches on both sides of the upper half of the Chamber were reserved for Peeresses, the sombreness of whose mourning was relieved by the blaze of jewels. Ambassadors and foreign Ministers occupied benches to the right of the dais. Nearer in came the Bishops. The galleries on each side were given up to the relatives of those in the body of the House. Behind the journalists in the gallery at the far end of the Chamber sat members of the House of Commons; below, in the body of the House, the benches in front of the Bar contained another group of Peers. At the table in the middle of the House were seated the clerks of the House; before the dais and Throne were ranged the judges.

In addition to Mme. Musurus and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, there were in the House—The Duchess of Somerset, the Duchess of Westminster, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Marchioness Townshend, the Marchioness of Dougall, the Marchioness of Sligo, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Marchioness of Normanby, the Dowager Countess of Chesterfield, the Countess of Chesterfield,

the Countess of Albemarle, the Countess of Crawford, the Countess of Erroll, the Countess of Mar, the Countess of Mar, and Kellie, the Countess of Galloway, the Countess of Kinnoull, the Countess of Northesk, the Countess of Portsmouth, Countess Fitzwilliam, the Dowager Countess of Gullford, the Countess of Hardwicke, Countess Bathurst, the Countess of Darley, the Countess of Sefton, the Countess of Caledon, the Countess of Craven, the Countess of Chichester, the Countess of Powis (Baroness Darcy de Knayth), Countess Beauchamp, the Countess of Stradbroke, the Countess Temple of Stowe, the Countess of Gainsborough, the Dowager Countess of Cottenham, the Countess of Liverpool, Viscountess Falmouth, Viscountess Hood, Viscountess Dillon, Viscountess Clifden, Viscountess Gort, Viscountess Esch, Viscountess Iveagh, Lady Willoughby de Broke, Lady Borthwick, Lady Balfour of Burleigh, Lady Belhaven and Stenton, Lady Bagot, Lady Berwick, the Dowager Lady Inchiquin, Lady Newborough, Lady Garvaghy, Lady Denman, Lady Bateman, Lady Stanley of Alderley, Lady Leigh, Louisa Dowager Lady Vivian, Lady Wolverton, the Dowager Lady Coleridge, Lady Rookwood, Lady Dunleath, the Dowager Lady Ludlow, the Dowager Lady Cranworth, Lady Cranworth, Lady Dorchester, Lady Leith, Lady Waleran, Lady Knarborough, Lady Michelham, Lady Northcliffe, Lady Desborough, Lady Haversham, Lady Weardale, Lady Nunburnholme, Lady Ribblesdale, and Lady Llangattock.

There was a hush as the King, with a smile and bow to friends here and there, walked to the dais. Donning his field-marshal's hat, the King read the royal Speech in clear, slow, distinct tones. It was listened to with the rapt interest that the first utterances of a new regime awaken :—

THE KING'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—The lamented death of the King of Denmark, to whom I was united by the closest ties of family and affection, has caused me much sorrow, and I feel convinced that the sympathy of the country will be extended to Queen Alexandra, who, in consequence of her severe bereavement, is prevented from accompanying me on the important occasion of the opening of the new Parliament.

The Prince and Princess of Wales left last autumn for India, and are visiting as many portions of my vast empire as time will admit of. The reception they have met with from all classes has been most gratifying to me, and I trust that their visit will tend to strengthen, among my subjects in India, the feeling of loyalty to the Crown and attachment to this country.

It was with real satisfaction that I received the King of the Hellenes who is so closely related to me, as my guest during the autumn. His Majesty's visit will, I am confident, confirm the friendly ties which have so long governed the relations existing between the two countries.

My relations with foreign Powers continue to be friendly.

I rejoice that the war between Russia and Japan has been brought to an end by the satisfactory conclusion of the negotiation commenced last August, and due to the initiative of the President of the United States, which resulted in an honourable peace.

An agreement has been concluded with the Government of the Emperor of Japan prolonging and extending that which was made between the two Governments in January 1902. Its text has already been made public.

The Conference summoned by the Sultan of Morocco to consider the introduction of reforms into his kingdom has assembled at Algieras, and delegates from the Powers Signatories of the Madrid Convention of 1880 are engaged in deliberations which still continue. It is earnestly to be hoped that the result of these negotiations may be conducive to the maintenance of peace among all nations.

The dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway has been peacefully accomplished, and, in accordance with the declared desire of the Norwegian people, my son-in-law and daughter, the Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, have ascended the Throne of Norway as King and Queen.

The insurrectionary movement in Crete has subsided, and the four protecting Powers have appointed Commissioners with a view to the introduction of reforms in the island.

The condition of the Macedonian vilayets, though in some respects improved, continues to give cause for anxiety. The Sultan has agreed to the appointment of an International Financial Commission to supervise the financial administration of these provinces, and I trust that this may lead to the introduction of salutary reforms and the improvement of the condition of the population.

Papers will be laid before you respecting army administration in India.

In order to establish responsible government in the Transvaal Colony, I have decided to recall the Letters Patent which provided for the intermediate stage of representative government, and

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to direct that the new Constitution be drawn up with as much expedition as is consistent with due care and deliberation in all particulars. The elections to the first Legislative Assembly, which had been expected in July, must accordingly be postponed, but it is not anticipated that the additional delay need extend beyond a few months.

The directions which have been given that no further licenses should be issued for the importation of Chinese coolies will continue in force during that period.

A Constitution granting responsible Government will also be framed for the Orange River Colony.

It is my earnest hope that in these Colonies, as elsewhere throughout my dominions, the grant of free institutions will be followed by an increase of prosperity and of loyalty to the Empire.

The Colonial Conference, which, in existing circumstances, cannot be held this year, has been postponed until the early part of next year, with the concurrence of the Colonial Governments concerned.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—I note with satisfaction that the imports and exports of the country continue to show a steady and accelerating increase, and, together with the growing activity of trade at home, indicate that the industries of my people are, in general, in a sound and progressive condition.

The additions which have been made in recent years to the national expenditure and to the capital liabilities of the State are matters to which I invite your earnest attention.

The estimates of charge which will be laid before you will be presented in as moderate a form as time and circumstances have allowed.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—My Ministers have under consideration plans for improving and effecting economies in the system of government in Ireland and for introducing into it means for associating the people with the conduct of Irish affairs. It is my desire that the government of the country, in reliance upon the ordinary law, should be carried on, so far as existing circumstances permit, in a spirit regardful of the wishes and sentiments of the Irish people; and I trust that this may conduce to the maintenance of tranquillity and of good feeling between different classes in the community.

The social and economic conditions of the rural districts in Great Britain require careful consideration. Inquiries are proceeding as to the means by which a larger number of the population may be attracted to and retained on the soil, and they will be completed at no distant date.

A Bill will be laid before you at the earliest possible moment for amending the existing law with regard to education in England and Wales.

Bills will also be submitted to you for dealing with the law regulating trade disputes, and for amending the Workmen's Compensation Acts; for the further equalisation of rates in the metropolis, and for amending the Unemployed Workmen Act.

Your attention will also be called to measures dealing with the Merchant Shipping Law, for amending and extending the Crofters' Holdings (Scotland) Act, for amending the Labourers (Ireland) Act, for checking commercial corruption, for improving the law regarding certain colonial marriages, for abolishing the property qualification required of county justices in England, and for the prevention of plural voting in parliamentary elections.

Your labours upon these and upon all other matters I humbly commend to the blessing of Almighty God.

Immediately after half-past two his Majesty, the ceremony in the House of Lords being ended, re-entered the State coach, and the procession returned to Buckingham Palace in the prescribed order, amid renewed plaudits from the people who remained on the line of route.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 17, 1906.

THE SMALL-POX CYCLE AND VACCINATION.

VARIOUS arguments have been brought forward in support of the cycle theory of small-pox and the efficacy of vaccination. If, as Jenner claimed that vaccination would leave one "for ever after secure against the contagion of the small-pox," be of any value, the cycle theory is baseless. The apparent inconsistency between the two does not seem to strike the vaccinists. The

cycle theory is a condemnation of vaccination. According to the Health Officer of Calcutta, the outbreak of small-pox occurs every fifth or sixth year. The assumption is explicable on the hypothesis that the microbes of small-pox, which were discovered only last year by Dr. W. E. de Korte, as amoeboid protozoa, have dormant existence for a time to be revitalised. The resuscitation lasts for two or three years when they again go to sleep. If this be the life-history of the microbes, then it must be said they have undergone no change during the last thirty years, in which period vaccination has been introduced as a compulsory measure to ensure safety from future attacks.

Let us now examine whether there is any periodicity in the attack of small-pox. It may be said that when the mortality from small-pox exceeds one hundred in a year, the disease has assumed an epidemic type. When deaths are less than hundred in a year, the disease is endemic. The epidemic years in Calcutta were as follows: 1865—4,923; 1870—150; 1874—120; 1875—720; 1878—1,493; 1879—772; 1880—114; 1881—133; 1884—478; 1885—155; 1890—700; 1894—346; 1895—1,691. These figures show that there is no fixed period of epidemic outbreak. The most conspicuous are the figures for 1878, 1879, 1880, and 1881. After the years 1882 and 1883, the mortality began to increase, which rise continued for two years 1884 and 1885. Then there was comparative calm for four years to be greatly disturbed in 1890. Between 1890 and 1894 or for only three years, there was dormancy of the microbes of small-pox. If we take the figures of mortality over five hundred as epidemic, the theory of cycle at once disappears.

At any rate, it shows that the microbes had no period of dulness to be succeeded by activity. The cycle theory on the face of it is ignorance of bacteriology, for it assumes periodic inactivity of microorganisms. On the contrary, as at present known, all amœbas, spirallae, bacilli or spores can create an epidemic if they can get suitable medium of propagation. To explain their virulence, we should look to the character of the weather, the first introduction of the exotics into a populous city, and the causes which favour their spread. These facts are clearly perceptible when a village is attacked. For then we can trace to a certainty the advent of any dangerous disease.

The singular feature of the cycle theory with regard to any disease, is the unconscious confession of fatalistic periods, which can not be checked by any sanitary precaution, as of the inefficiency of the Health Department of the Calcutta Corporation. The above figures refer to the town proper not including the suburban area. The small-pox epidemics of 1905 and 1906 may be said to disprove the theory of cycle. A necessary conclusion is that after thirty years' compulsory vaccination, the assumed safety from it has vanished. It is, therefore, that the Report of the Royal Commission on Vaccination in England discouraged compulsory vaccination. The death of vaccination has been pronounced in England; but India is obliged to submit to the injury from vaccination. There are penalties for not vaccinating children. No punishment, however, has been prescribed for destroying by vaccination the healths of children, who generally suffer from chronic fevers and many other diseases. It is the observation of many medical men that diseases are intensified by this forced operation

The bad effects of vaccination have gained a notoriety in the name vaccinosis. Even ardent vaccinists cannot deny that there is danger in the use of glycerinated vaccine. Professor Michael Foster, Sir James Paget and Dr. Bristowe were aware of the evil effects of badly glycerinated vaccine. The Malkwal deaths from Haffkenism caused a shudder. If we take into consideration the deaths due to vaccination, then Haffkenism at Malkwal is thrown into the shade.

The Wards of Calcutta, where the disease is raging, are Jorasanko, Jorabagan, Colootola, Moolchipara, and Puddopuker. The rate of mortality every week in municipal Calcutta since December last exceeded one hundred and fifty every week. In the Puddopuker Ward, the fishermen have been the first and the worst sufferers. It is so in other Wards. What relation the fishermen have with small-pox, is a matter for scientific enquiry in order to ascertain the epidemics of the disease. It may be that the unscaled fishes, such as Magur, Singhee, etc., imbibe the disease from the water of their original habitation. The infection caught in any way is manifested in the pustular eruptions on their body. The enquiry should be to ascertain whether these pustules are really a modified variety of small-pox, as vaccina is; whether they can transfer the disease to man; and how they are themselves affected? It is certain that we get many of our diseases from animals, at the first display of epidemic influence. The study of epidemics will disclose many unknown things which bacteriology cannot unravel. Observations with regard to clinical medicine assisted by bacteriology can trace the spread of any epidemic disease. For this reason, our Health Officer should not only be a D. P. H., but also a medical man in the full sense of the phrase.

Doubt can not be entertained that the glycerinated vaccine can produce many dangers. The "Lancet" had to confess that, "Just as carbolic acid may be used without resulting in surgical antiseptics, so glycerine may be used without destroying all the organisms which ought to be destroyed." We have no faith in the antiseptics of glycerine. If glycerine could have the antiseptic effect, it is reasonable to suppose that it would also destroy the micro-organisms of small-pox. The real danger is the introduction of any foreign matter into the vaccine tube not properly sealed. There may be cracks in the tube which can take in pathogenic microbes. The following is from the "Medical Advocate" of February, 1904:

"In the Ohio 'Sanitary Bulletin,' the official organ of the Ohio State Board of Health, Dr. Friedrich, the Health Officer of Cleveland during the small-pox epidemic, said he 'stopped vaccination on coming into office because he had found evidence that impure vaccine virus had been productive of some very bad results; that he expected to resume vaccination when he found virus free from pathogenetic organisms, but up to that time (June 28, 1902) such vaccine virus as he had examined in the Board of Health laboratory had been shown to be impure or inert.' On August 11, 1902, he further writes: 'Last summer I stopped vaccination, for the clinical facts showed that the virus used was not pure. The first point examined produced 2,200 colonies of pathogenic germs. One fourth c. c. of a bouillon culture injected into a guinea pig killed it in twenty-four hours. Such hor-

rible stuff was advertised as pure vaccine virus and used on human arms.'

What occurred in Cleveland occurs elsewhere and the experience of the city on the lake is no isolated exception; other communities have learned the same sorrowful lesson.

Moreover, auto-infection of wounds from soiled clothing and other sources often occurs. Friction of clothing, scratching the wound with the nails while asleep or chafing the itching arm thoughtlessly may provoke the evil result. These cases occur in every parish in the land, and the enforcement of compulsory vaccination is awaking some vigorous protests even among the most intelligent people."

After reading the record of so many failures and dangers, and having experience of many bad cases as the result of vaccination, all intelligent persons who think for themselves cannot but be against it. The common stereotyped defence of vaccination is supplied by the statistics of the Prussian army where re-vaccination is enforced every two or three years. The reasonable question is, whether the result is arrived at by vaccination only, or sanitary arrangements play an important part in the health of the Prussian army. The general adoption of hygienic measures must have contributed to the success of vaccination.

From whatever cause, vaccination has ceased to be effective, and is, besides, not baneficial. Scarification, introduction of foreign matter (which may contain the microbes of many dangerous diseases), and ulcers may be the foci of new infection. In the present epidemic, cases are not wanting in which small-pox has appeared after re-vaccination. In many children, after vaccination, the fever takes a bad turn. The Health Department parades the figures of vaccination and re-vaccination. It takes no account of the baneful influence of the introduction of virus into children, particularly of weak health.

A great drawback of the administration is that there is no graduated dose, as in many isopathic inoculations. The hydropathic inoculation of Pasteur admits of a graduated dose. Commencing from a weak poison the injection ends in a strong one. In vaccination, it is the one and the same for all ages, all conditions, and all temperatures or climatic influences. In weak children the dose seems to be strong. Taking all things into consideration, so far as can be reasonably said, vaccination is not a safe method of protection. Besides vaccination for small-pox, there are inoculations for other diseases. During epidemics of plague, small-pox, cholera, and other kinds of fever running concurrently, to how many varieties of inoculations is the same individual to be subjected? Will not any one be an antidote to another? Prophylactic inoculations are therefore hazardous measures. A person vaccinated may develop plague or any other disease. It is said that cases of measles occurred just after vaccination and they assumed a grave type. When so many dangerous diseases are without any prophylactic treatment, it is high-handedness to adopt a doubtful measure. The greatest mortality in Bengal is from malarious fevers which are allowed to do their mischief. The preventive operation by inoculation, to speak the least of it, is unscientific. Measures ought to be adopted to fight a disease when it has affected a person. Anticipatory treatment is little removed from quackery. General sanitary regulations should replace preven-

tive medicines. "The British Medical Journal" of October 21, draws a distinction between natural and artificial immunity, according to the experiments performed by Mechnikoff. Of the natural immunity, it says: "The cytases rid the animal of the micro-organisms without the slightest observable co-operation on the part of other soluble ferments." It may be explained that cytases are cellular exudations of the blood. This ferment destroys the diseased germs. On the other hand, in acquired immunity, as in all prophylactic inoculations, the fixatives are the principal factors. "They are not in themselves bactericidal but by fixing themselves upon the micro-organisms they render the latter much more susceptible to bactericidal action of microcytases." Doubt is entertained as to whether cytases exude in acquired immunity. If cytases and fixatives both display their power at the same time, the question arises whether there will be assistance or resistance in their action. It is said that in natural immunity there is exudation of cytases. In artificial immunity the cytases and the fixatives are formed. Can it, then, be said that artificial immunity is better than natural immunity? The preference of artificial immunity to natural protection is opposed to clinical observation. Many scientific authorities are disposed to give to cytases the character of natural immunity and to fixatives that of acquired immunity. Scientific experiments do not favour prophylactic inoculations. The short duration of their action is explicable on the same basis.

Most homœopathic practitioners are of opinion that homœopathic vaccinum serves the purpose better than vaccination. They think that its efficacy has been verified in the present epidemic. At any rate, this homœopathic medicine deserves an extensive trial to arrive at a correct conclusion.

THE following order in the Military Department is gazetted to-day:

Fort William, the 16th March 1906. Military Secretariat. No. 203.—The Governor General in Council is pleased to notify that with the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India the Military Department of the Government of India as at present constituted will cease to exist from the 19th March 1906.

2. The Military administration of the Government of India will in future be controlled by the Government of India in two separate Departments, the Army Department and the Department of Military supply, which are hereby constituted, with effect from the same date.

AFTER a lapse of years, the Bengal Social Science Association was revived in March 1897. It is now proposed to make it dead entirely, by making over its fund amounting to about Rs. 6,000, to Government, under the Charitable Endowments Act, with the Director of Public Instruction as Administrator of the Fund, in order to found one or more scholarships in the University of Calcutta, to encourage the study of Political Economy.

Can no such use be made of the Hare Anniversary Fund? There is occasional celebration of the death of David Hare, but independent of that fund.

IN supersession of the previous Home Department notifications, the Governor General in Council is pleased, under the provisions of the High Courts Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vict., Cap. 104), section 7, to appoint Mr. C. P. Caspersz, I.C.S., to officiate as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, with effect

from the date on which the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pargiter, I.C.S., relinquishes charge of his office, and until further orders.

The Home Department notification dated the 27th February 1906, regarding the grant of furlough to the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Geidt, I.C.S., is also cancelled.

ONE practical result of the present Swadeshi movement in Bengal is the preparation to work a cotton mill. A prospectus has been published saying that a company, named the Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills, Limited, has been formed and that it has entered into an agreement with the proprietors of the Luxmi Tuli Cotton Mills at Serampur, for the purchase of their land, plant and machinery at the price of Rs. 7,15,000. Rs. 2,75,000 more will be required for new machinery, and another two lakhs for working expenses. So 12 lakhs is wanted as capital, of which, it is further reported, considerable portion has already been subscribed. The capital 12 lakhs is to be in 12,000 shares. The prospectus as published in the Calcutta papers does not uniformly give the value of each share. Once it is Rs. 250 and again it is Rs. 100. We know this discrepancy has deterred one at least from investing any money in the concern.

WHEN in a matter of 12 lakhs, it is immaterial whether a share be Rs. 100 or Rs. 250, it ought not to be a surprise if the donor of rupees five lakhs for a National Council of Education is Babu Brojendra Kumar Chowdhry or Babu Brojendra Kisor Chowdhury.

THE following letter received the previous night was read by the Vice-Chancellor at the meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University on Saturday, the 10th March:

"From H. H. Risley, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India,

To the Registrar, Calcutta University.

Home Department, (Education).

Calcutta, the 9th March, 1906

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1376 of 26th February, 1906, submitting for the information of the Government of India a Resolution by the Senate relating to their request for the further extension of the period fixed for the preparation of revised regulations under Section 26 of the Indian Universities Act, 1904.

2. In reply I am to explain that the Government of India have pronounced no decision in the matter but have merely communicated to the Senate an interpretation of the law governing the subject which the Governor-General in Council is bound to accept as authoritative. In these circumstances the Government of India feel that they are precluded from adopting any course of action which would be inconsistent with the legal construction laid down by the Advocate-General."

If this letter be any indication of the present Viceroyalty never to travel out of law or always to enforce it on every occasion, it is a happy sign. When law is allowed its own course, nobody should complain, unless it be to alter the law. No man of words, Lord Minto, makes a quiet revolution. His present inaction is a warning to all to be industrious and to do everything within the prescribed time. He seems to say Never neglect your work and do not let time pass in idleness or in useless wrangling in the confident hope of further time for completion of a task. We have yet to know the value of time. More than a century of British rule has not taught us to be always in time. We take no note of time except under compulsion. Left to ourselves, we are as dilatory and unpunctual as ever.

Under Lord Minto, so far as he has shown himself, the Government of India must not be the Government of paragraphs or of talk. The golden rule of silence or silent work is his policy.

Commenting on the India letter, the "Hindoo Patriot" mentions an occasion when, in 1900, the Bengal Government would not be guided by the opinion of the Advocate Ge-

neral unless it was confirmed by another Counsel of the Calcutta Bar. Another time when the Government of India would not even seek the opinion of the Calcutta Advocate-General was when the Gaekwar Mulhar Rao was deposed and the question of adoption of a Gaekwar arose. Then other Counsel of the Calcutta High Court Bar were consulted. So, the Advocate-General has not always been the highest legal authority with either the Government of Bengal or the Government of India. The unwilling, like the lazy, are never in want of excuse for their omission or inaction. And with the high any excuse may pass, especially when there is no higher authority.

Advised by the Advocate-General, the Governor-General in Council pleaded limitation to the request of the Senate for further time. It has been interpreted that the power granted by law to His Excellency to extend the time was exhausted by the first grant. There remaining no power to further extend the time, the extension has been refused, that is, to be strictly accurate, the Governor-General in Council is estopped from entertaining the request, or further moving in the matter. He expresses no opinion of his own, relying wholly on that given by the Advocate-General. That Crown lawyer saves the Governor-General in Council the discourtesy of a direct refusal. In the Law Member, there is a lawyer in the Executive Council of the Governor-General. It does not appear that he was consulted or that he is of the same opinion with the Advocate-General. Formerly, the Law Member was no Member of the Executive Council. Lord Macaulay and his successors down to 1853, though Members of Council, had not the right to sit and vote upon all subjects in the Executive Council. The Legislative Department of the Government of India is now a separate Department, distinct from the Home Department of which it was a branch. Yet, even in matters of legislation, the Legislative Department, of which the head is the Law Member with equal powers of other Members of the Executive Council, is not wholly independent of the Home Department. It cannot introduce or draft a law without a request from the Home Department. It by itself cannot consider or initiate a matter and is still subordinate to the Home Department. It may, therefore, be that the Law Member is no factor in the present matter, the Advocate-General, not in the Executive Council, overtopping him. The Law Member may be charged with introducing a law. His function possibly ceases after the drafting or passing of a law, the interpretation of it being left to the Departments concerned or the Advocate-General.

The opinion of the Advocate-General has not been published. Mr. L. P. Pugh has also given an opinion. The question put to him, as he states, is—whether under sec. 26 of the Indian Universities Act, 1904, the Senate, having to submit a revised body or Regulations "within one year from the commencement of this Act or whether such further period as the Government may fix in this behalf" and having already fixed a further period of six months, have power to extend the time further and fix a later period than the six months. Mr. Pugh thinks that to hold that "a further extension cannot be allowed under the Act" is "too narrow a construction to upon the words of the section," and is "of opinion that a further extension can be allowed under the Act." The law itself limits the period to one year. It also allows the Government to fix another limit beyond that period. In supporting still another limit, Mr. Pugh explains, in the words of Chief Justice Mansfield:

"The sense of the condition is that the arbitrator shall have sufficient time to make his award and that if he cannot make it by the day named he is to make it any time that he pleases; and whether he names the ultimate day at once or at a subsequent time, is immaterial."

According to Mr. Pugh, it is open to the Governor-General to extend the period from time to time. The power to extend is inexhaustible. The limit is no limit of time but of the will of the extender.

MR. S. P. CHATTERJEE, the florist, has advanced one step in establishing a club for the cultivation of taste and love of flowers. The writer of this note who is an experienced hand at regulating Flower Shows in Bombay since 1878, thinks that the arrangement of the Calcutta Club is admirable and just the thing required. Love of flowers is the most prominent feature of European civilization. In England, France, and Germany, extensive flower gardens are maintained by the wealthy, while the Indian Zemindars have yet been growing paddy and collecting oakum. The few and rare compounds or enclosures of their palatial buildings in the metropolis are stuffed with out-of-date crotons and bixas, and the sanctity of flower is an expression we have yet to learn. If any straggling bush or creeper gets an inflorescence, our servants will remove the same for the worship of the family godlings or our children will crush them between their fingers and see if they give out any smell or stink under the pang. Wanton destruction of flowers is their first duty on being taken out for a little airing in the garden. Under such circumstances, any attempt at cultivating a taste for the culture and preservation of Nature's loveliest products—flowers, commands respect. In his "Notice" Mr. Chatterjee complains of the lack of interest in Horticulture. He attributes it to the absence of some one to take the initiative but we are inclined to trace it to the fleeting or migratory nature of the Calcutta Society. The exodus to Simla and Darjeeling has much to do with the feeling produced in Calcutta that one's stay is but temporary here. It would not be safe to leave valuable plants to the mercy of our Malis. Mr. Chamberlain once saw in Paris an orchid which was a valued possession in his garden. He bought it at a very high price, but instead of asking the florist to pack it up for despatch to England, he took out his pen-knife and sliced the flowers into shreds—leaf, tuber, rootlets and all. What is the matter, exclaimed the astonished gardener with the gold still sparkling in his hand. Mr. Chamberlain coolly turned back and asked him to tell him whence he got it, promising that he would not quarrel with him. After some hesitation, the poor man confessed that it was obtained with great difficulty from the orchid-house of the well-known Mr. Chamberlain of London. Yes, and I am Mr. Chamberlain! was the only reply he vouchsafed to the utter mortification of the thief. This is an extreme case. But who would not feel justly proud to see his name on the most admired flower-pot? A good flower is as much a treasure as a good gem. Mr. Chatterjee's Prospectus is:

Calcutta, the Second City of the Empire, is much behind the times in gardening, while interest in horticulture seems to be on the wane. The cause for this is possibly to be found in the absence of some one to take the initiative in bringing lovers of flowers and fruits together for the purpose of promoting horticultural exhibitions and generally encouraging the extension of horticulture in India. Europeans must take the lead in this direction to set an example to Indian gentlemen.

It is my intention to establish an institution, which I propose to call "The Horticultural Club of India," and to bring together all enthusiastic horticulturists in the country, and thus diffuse a knowledge of Gardening in the most practical way.

I earnestly appeal to the gardening-public and elite of European Society to help me to hold, as often as possible, meetings and shows during the year, and also to get together an up-to-date Horticultural Library, the nucleus of which is at present located at the Victoria Nursery till a suitable site can be secured in the City for a more pretentious one. I shall be glad to receive suggestions from all lovers of gardening.

THE Hon'ble Mr. P. O'Kinealy, Advocate General for Bengal, is granted leave of absence on medical certificate for seven months and three days, with effect from the 29th March 1906.

LONDON, MAR. 10. A terrible explosion of fire damp has taken place at Courrieres coal mine near Lille. 1,800 men were in the mine at the time. Some were rescued but it is feared that the loss of life is enormous.

MAR. 11. The catastrophe at the mine at Courrieres is unparalleled in the whole history of mining disasters. 1,219 miners are known to have been killed. A crowd of 25,000 struggled at the pit's head endeavouring to learn the fate of

the bread-winners. It appears the fire had been smouldering for days in the lower workshops and broke out furiously yesterday morning seven hundred feet below the surface, resulting in explosions.]

The rescue work at Courrières is most difficult and most dangerous. Galleries are caving in full of poisonous gases. Hundreds of bodies have been recovered. Subscriptions for the sufferers are coming in freely. The Chamber will be asked to vote half a million francs.

Mar. 12. The French Chamber has unanimously voted 20,000 sterling towards the relief of the sufferers of the Courrières disaster. The roll call shows that the victims number 1,150. Only ninety bodies have been recovered. Further operations have been stopped owing to the accumulations of firedamp and the stench from the bodies. There are various theories as to the cause of the disaster but it is generally believed that firedamp accumulated and came in contact with the naked lights which are always used at Courrières, where firedamp has been hitherto unknown.

Mar. 14. Thousands attended the funerals of the victims of the Courrières disaster, and most pathetic scenes were witnessed. Afterwards violent speeches were made demanding investigation amid cries of "down with the capitalists" and "murderers." The miners at Courrières have decided to demand an increase of wages. The miners at Ostricourt have struck.

The Labourite members of the Commons have opened a Parliamentary Fund for the relief of the sufferers at Courrières.

Mar. 15. The City Corporation has subscribed £105, to the Courrières sufferers and the same to the Japanese Famine Fund.

Mar. 16. A German Colliery Syndicate has subscribed five thousand pounds towards the relief of the Courrières sufferers. Anarchists are inciting the strikers at Courrières. The authorities are uneasy and have summoned a regiment of Cavalry.

LONDON, MAR. 13. Many wrecks took place in the great gale last night. The steamer Colne foundered in the North Sea and twelve on board perished. Four blue jackets were drowned by the capsizing of a picket boat at Berhaven. The Netherlands coast has been flooded and great damage done, with many fatalities.

LONDON, MAR. 14. A volcanic eruption has taken place at Hawaii and Samoa, in which three villages were destroyed.

LONDON, MAR. 10. The new Tube Railway between Waterloo and Baker Street was opened to-day.

THE ROYAL TOUR.

Quetta, Mar. 12.

In reply to the Municipal address, His Royal Highness said:

Gentlemen—The address which has just been read presents in a very graphic language a story of which we may all feel proud. While thanking you heartily for your welcome to the princess of Wales and myself, I congratulate you with equal heartiness on your achievements. We who are familiar with the older and more slowly growing institutions of the West, are naturally struck with the rapid career of Quetta. You have mentioned the honoured name of Col. Sandeman who had won the people of Baluchistan to the ways of peace. I doubt not that the traditions of that great man inspire and direct you in your labours and I can detect in your address two of his qualities—courage and hope. We shall have opportunities during the next few days of seeing for ourselves the work which has been achieved within the short space of thirty years and it will be my pleasing duty to inform the King-Emperor of the wonderful progress which has been made on this frontier of the Empire since he visited India. May every success and prosperity attend your useful labours. The concluding words of your address have greatly touched us, and we sincerely join in your expressions of thankfulness for the blessings which Providence has bestowed upon us during our journey to and in India.

"BANDE MATARAM!"

Mother, O! Thy glory singing!
Waters flowing, crops abounding,
Far from hills cool zephyr blowing,
Wavy fields with green corns ripening,
Mother!

With effulgent moon thy nights
bewitching,
Laughing flow'rs the sylvan trees
enriching,
Smiling sweet, of speech divine
and soothing,
Joy dispensing, giver thou of blessing,
Mother!

Burst forth sev'n crore throats in
awful shout tremendous,
Grasp in hands twice seven crore
thy swords all flashing furious!
Thine is such might! Powerless still
thou, Mother?

Thou unequalled prowess wielding,
Saviour, I to thee am bowing,
Thou, our banded foes destroying,
Mother!

Thou art knowledge, and thou art faith,
Thou art the heart, and thou the mind,
Thou in corporal frames the breath!

Thine the strength all, that our
arms hold,
Thou with rev'rence our hearts
dost move,
Thine the forms in temples we mould.

Durga, thou ten weapons holding,
Kamala, on lotus sporting,
Bani, Goddess of all learning,
Thee am I adoring!

Kamala, I to thee am bowing,
Spotless thou and all transcending,
Waters flowing, crops abounding,
Mother O! Thy glory singing!

Verdant thou and unpretending,
Gracious smiles benignant wearing,
Ye Oh Earth, thou all-supporting,

Mother!

J. L. C.

—"Hindoo Patriot," Mar. 17, 1906.

THE SCARCITY IN EASTERN BENGAL.

Mr. P. C. Lyon, Esq., I. C. S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, has addressed the Honorary Secretary, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, as follows in a letter dated Dacca, March 2.—

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 109, dated the 5th February 1906, I am directed to inform you that high price at which rice is selling in the districts of Eastern Bengal has been attracting the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for some time past. It is, no doubt, due in a great measure to the shortness of the Bhadoi harvest. The information which has been published by the Agricultural Dept. shows that the Bhadoi area was short in Bakarganj only. But the outturn is reported to have been very poor in some districts, 60 p.c. of the normal in Faridpur, 52 p.c. in Noakhali and 50 p.c. in Bakarganj though in others the crop yielded better, 57 p.c. in Dacca, 70 p.c. in Mymensing and 81 p.c. in Tippera. The area under winter

rice showed a considerable increase in Bakargang, and the outturn is said to have been 75-p.c. in Faridpur, and 40-p.c. in Tippera, but in Bakargang, Noakhali and Chittagong it is reported to have been 90-p.c. or over, though there is grave reason to doubt whether in Chittagong at all events the produce was as good as this. The area under winter rice is of course very much larger than that under Bhadoi, indeed in the six districts named above it is three times larger, and it is surprising that the shortage in the Bhadoi as reported should have affected prices so greatly. There is reason to believe that prices have been forced up by an altogether abnormal demand for export. The information at the disposal of this Government is, however, lacking in detail and the fact remains that prices are very high.

The situation thus created is receiving Sir Bampfylde Fuller's attention, and when he received numerous complaints from Government rayyets of the Noakhali district, during his tour in January last, he sanctioned the postponement of the collection of rents and the distribution of some takavi loans. But His Honour's experience is altogether against the practicability of collecting reliable information as to stocks through the agency of Government officials. Such a measure has often been attempted in provinces where the machinery for collecting information is infinitely more efficient than it is in Eastern Bengal, but the results have generally been quite unconvincing. For the ascertainment of stocks private enterprise is very much more capable than any efforts that can be made by Government and the Lieutenant Governor would be averse from troubling the officers of Government at the present time with an investigation which His Honour feels sure would be infructuous.

I am to add that in considering the situation the enormous profits which the production of jute has been affording the cultivators must not be left out of account.

THE LATE SIR JOHN BUDD PHEAR AND HIS JUDGMENTS.

We said in our previous article (10th March) that Sir John Phear would not seek the friendship of Viceroys and Lieutenant-Governors. He always, however, honoured their invitations, they being in the nature of commands. But he would feel a genuine pleasure in inviting his brother Judges and many intimate native friends or in joining such private parties at their place, where he would talk freely and frankly on all literary and social topics. At a party given by Sir Barnes Peacock to his colleagues, which was attended by the late Justice Dwarka Nath Mitter, the latter, after a hearty dinner, was called upon by the host to deliver an extempore lecture on the main doctrines and essential principles of the Philosophy of the eminent founder of Positivism—Auguste Comte—whose ardent disciple and follower he was known to be and whose work in original French the said Judge would even lose no time in reading in his private Chamber in Court and during the hour of luncheon. The learned Judges were all surprised and delighted to hear the masterly exposition of such abstruse and high questions of speculative thought and political philosophy, in fluent and idiomatic English, and Mr. Phear, the Cambridge Wrangler and the author of a treatise on Hydrostatics and the President of all sorts of Associations for the diffusion of knowledge in the land, was not a little impressed by the eloquence and high intellectual ability of his dusky colleague on the Bench.

But to return to our main narrative. Such were the usual favourite gatherings and pursuits of our Judges in those days. Mr. Justice Phear would not miss a single opportunity to deliver learned and regular discourses at public associations and assemblies, on all imaginable subjects, legal, social, moral, scientific or industrial. He was very zealous of the independence of his office and would do his best to avoid frequent contact, or, shall we say, contagion with high executive functionaries. Sir Barnes Peacock once, it is said, declined to receive an official communique addressed from Belvedere and Mr. Phear was not a whit unworthy of his illustrious chief. This high spirit, we fear, stood in the way of his obtaining the Chief Justiceship of the court although he had his Knighthood and the Chief Justiceship of the little island colony of Ceylon. He had a very exalted idea of the dignity and powers of his Court and would not tolerate the slightest show of disrespect of its orders or infringement of its directions by the subordinate judiciary, be the Officer a Civilian District Judge or Magistrate or an Uncovenanted Sub-Judge or Deputy.

We would ask our readers' indulgence in noting at some length one of many cases besides those we have pointedly referred to in our previous articles, in which he severely, but justly criticised the acts and judicial vagaries of some high placed officials whose praises are sung on all possible occasions and faults and whose misdemeanours are minimised in high quarters with all the fervour and blandness of fraternal love and tenderness.

The Charter Act, in creating the High Court, and the Indian Supreme Legislature, in codifying the Civil and Criminal Procedure of our Courts, have vested the High Court with the power of superintendence and control of the proceedings of all Courts, civil and criminal, subject to its jurisdiction. In the exercise of such powers the High Court has the best opportunity to regulate the proceedings, correct the errors and illegalities of the subordinate Courts and to afford relief to litigants not open to them by way of appeal. The exercise of this function by the High Court, in its Criminal Revisional jurisdiction, is a valuable safeguard of the personal rights and liberties of all classes of His Majesty's subjects, and the Judge who does not swerve from fulfilling the purposes of the law, in this behalf, in exposing and correcting the aberrations and wrong doings of the subordinate Courts does more for the promotion of the ends of law and justice than one who may display a fuller knowledge of the details and technicalities of a particular branch of law or the refined subtleties of special pleading. For, in the interpretation of a particular point or doctrine of substantive civil law or the language of a Statute or an Act, judges do very widely differ from one another, and there can be no satisfactory or final solution of a question, unless an authoritative decision is pronounced by the Privy Council. But in matters criminal, our High Court is often the ultimate arbiter and last resort and by its actions and directions, it daily and directly affects the lives and fortunes of the people, while, at the same time, it exercises a beneficial and educating influence on the lower courts.

The case we have referred to above (Abdul Kadir versus the Magistrate of Purnea XI. B. L. R. sp. 88) is typical one and illustrates the evil of the union of judicial with executive functions in the same individual, which is still the chief feature in our system of judicial administration, and which, in spite of protests and authoritative condemnation of about half a century, baffles all reforming efforts.

The Magistrate instituted certain criminal proceedings against Abdul Kadir for alleged embezzlement of funds of the Local Collectorate. He was put in Hajut. On applying to the High Court, he obtained an order for being released on security by the Magistrate, who, instead of carrying it out, directed in his capacity of Collector his imprisonment on fresh charges and institution of fresh proceedings before a joint Magistrate subordinate to him who committed the accused again to custody under the new charges.

All these criminal proceedings came up by way of revision on motion before the High Court (Kemp and Phear, J. J.) The Legal Remembrancer Mr. Bell objected to the jurisdiction of the High Court to interfere with or to suspend the proceedings of the Lower Court while they were in an interlocutory stage. Mr. Justice Phear after a critical examination of the law (sections 297, 390 and 398, &c.) of the Criminal Procedure Code, held that the High Court had such power and that there was no limitation whatever in regard to the stage of the judicial proceedings in which power is given to the High Court to call up and revise proceedings and correct material errors and pass such judgment, sentence or order thereon as it may think fit. He then summed up the points of law and dealing with the facts of the case vindicated the authority of the Court, graciously accepted the apology of the Legal Remembrancer offered on behalf of the erring Magistrate and afforded relief to the accused by releasing him from custody and allowing him an opportunity of being tried by a different officer. We quote a portion of the judgment :

"On the whole, ... the objections which the learned Legal Remembrancer made to the rule... fail him... It is virtually admitted... that he (the Magistrate) did not comply with it (the rule), for he certainly did not release Abdul Kadir. It seems to me impossible to say that the admitting him to bail,

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE. WARD XI.

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Vakil, High Court.
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Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.
Assistant Secretary.
Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna.
Treasurer.
Babu Amulya Dhan Pal.
Accountant.
Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya
and
A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vakshtya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408 9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

upon recognizances conditioned in the way in which the recognizances in this case were conducted is the same thing as releasing the prisoner. I understand the Legal Remembrancer to appeal to section 391 as an excuse for the conduct of the Magistrate, and to urge that that section did afford a ground for a possible misapprehension on Mr. Kemble's part as to the intentions and orders of this Court involved in the direction to release on bail; and this, I take it, is pretty nearly as much as admitting that the Magistrate did not carry out the orders of the Court, as they were intended to be carried out. I do not think I need dwell upon the terms of Section 391, because it seems to me that, if any one reads that Section with an intelligent attention, he will see that the meaning of it is, not that a man, when enlarged, should be given a qualified or abridged liberty, but that it should be competent to the Court to make the recognizances extend to ensuring his attendance at more than one stated time or contingency, to meet the purposes for which it was necessary that he should be bound to attend the Court; as, for instance, from day to day during the investigation or trial. The learned Legal Remembrancer also very forcibly put before us that there could be no intention on the part of any subordinate officer to disregard the orders of this Court, because he has an overpowering incentive to do his duty in the certainty which he must perceive of the action which would be taken by the Executive Government in the event of his not doing it. If such motives as those for right action are to be referred to, I would also say that this Court has the power of vindicating its own authority whenever that authority is intentionally disregarded; and if it sometimes becomes necessary or expedient so to do when private persons are the offenders, such a course would be still more necessary and expedient when judicial officers subordinate to it deliberately disobey its orders. If such a case should ever occur, as I trust and believe it will not, it seems to me that it would constitute such a public scandal upon our administration of justice here as would demand the immediate intervention of this Court of its own authority and I doubt not that such intervention would be effected. But we entirely accept the learned Legal Remembrancer's assurances that Mr. Kemble in this case had no intention whatever of disobeying the orders of this Court, or of doing any act of disrespect towards this Court. It is, I think, unfortunate that he was, if I may use the expression, not so

entirely and thoroughly loyal towards superior authority in the first instance as he might have been; "

The learned Judge far from being vindictive or severe in dealing with the faults and delinquencies of his own countryman showed a rather generous leniency in the matter, for his Civilian colleague (Mr. Justice Kemp) whom no one would suspect of being uncharitable or hostile to the members of his own body, while taking the same view of the law on the point of jurisdiction, censures the conduct of the Magistrate in more unmeasured and caustic language.

"I am of opinion, an opinion deliberately arrived at, that the whole of the proceedings in this case, so far as they have gone, are most discreditable to the judicial authorities of Zillah Purnea....but I am happy to find that my learned colleague is of opinion that there has been no want of bona fides on the part of Mr. Kemble (the Magistrate), in this matter. I must say, speaking for myself, that Mr. Kemble's conduct, more particularly with reference to the double capacity in which he has acted in this matter, endeavouring to evade compliance with the orders of this Court as Magistrate by turning himself for the nonce into a Collector, and then acting under an old Regulation which has been repealed, is not altogether consistent with an earnest intention to carry out our orders. I do not wish, however, to press this matter further, nor in any way to dissent from the judgment which has just been delivered by my learned colleague."

There is a well-known case (In the Matter of Ameer Khan and another, XV, W. R. 69) in which Mr. Justice Phear, who always in proper cases in the interests of justice would assert and exercise the extraordinary powers of the High Court, declined (sitting with Justices Macpherson and Mukerjee) to exercise such powers on grounds which seemed to him insufficient and unreasonable - the same being that in the case there were difficult questions of law and fact to be decided by the Sessions Judge of Patna before whom it was pending and that therefore the High Court should transfer it to its own file for trial. After a learned and exhaustive examination of the powers and constitution of the Court, as given in section 29 of the Letters Patent, &c., Mr. Phear coming to the conclusion that the Court had the power to transfer a criminal case from a mofussil Court for trial before itself, as it had from one Mofussil Court to another, refers to and demolishes the argument of the Advocate-General, thus :

"It appears to me that we cannot give effect to this argument without sanctioning a distinction of parts in the High Court which has no reality, and thus giving currency to an error which may become fertile in mischievous results. The High Court is endowed with extensive (I may say exalted) jurisdiction embracing in its ambit various subjects or topics and is described in the Letters Patent under various heads. The Judges of whom the Court is composed are numerous and the Legislature has empowered the Court by its own rules (I am now quoting section 13 of the Charter Act) to 'provide for the exercise, by one or more Judges, or by Division Courts constituted by two or more Judges of the said High Court, of the original or appellate jurisdiction vested in such Court, in such manner as may appear to such Court to be convenient for the due administration of justice.' The Court has availed itself of this power, and does exercise its power,.... by single Judges, and Division Courts.... The rules of the Court by which this is done are perhaps little systematic, and certainly have not been framed with any view to the particular point upon which the present objection depends.... It is within our daily experience that a Division Bench of the Court, whose work is defined by local limits, takes up and disposes of work which in the same way belongs to another Bench. And in many other modes work is being constantly done without question, which, I apprehend, would be without authority and legal efficacy, if the view which has been now contented for before us were correct. And see what the result would be. The High Court rarely sits as a whole. Only once in the whole course of my experience (the great Rent Case is referred to) has it done so. The result would be that instead of one High Court, we should have a group of Courts, each of imperfect and ill-defined limited jurisdiction. This, I think, would offer every sort of opportunity for uncertainty x x x This would be a wretched state of things, and one not likely to have been intended, but rather very foreign to the mind of the Legislature which amalgamated the Sudder and Supreme Courts. x x x But I come without any sort of hesitation, to the conclusion that this Court, when engaged in administering criminal justice within the district of Calcutta under its ordinary criminal jurisdiction, is none other than the High Court itself. It is the High Court discharging one of its proper functions; it is not merely the High Court in some (to me not very conceivable) inferior capacity."

Then citing the case of *Nobodip Chunder Goswami*, in which Sir Barnes Peacock held that the High Court on grounds of com-

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venience had the power of transferring the trial of criminal cases from the 24-Pergunnahs to any other district in Bengal, the learned Judge asks "Why, then, should we not have the same power to remove the case into this Court across the Circular Road even though the reasons of convenience were ten-fold stronger." To the argument that, while express power to transfer a civil case is given under section 13 of the Letters Patent, no such power is expressly given in criminal matters, he answers: "The power which is given to us in section 29, whatever may be its proper extent, is unquestionably remedial in its nature; and I am disposed to think that this Court, the highest Court in this Presidency, ought not to decline a remedial power which the words of the Letters Patent apparently gave it, without the strongest possible grounds for thinking that these words were not intended to mean what they apparently do mean."

We shall not make further extracts from the judgment on dry questions of law, which have now been settled and accepted. The fact that they were at one time thought open to doubt and discussion is our excuse for bringing them forward when they possess only an academical interest or historical significance: We will take the liberty to cite and comment on another decision of the learned Judge reported in XIV. W. R. 27, Dr. J. A. Greene versus Mr. J. P. Delaney. It is a case of Defamation which came up on reference by the Sessions Judge of Tipperah before him sitting with Justice E. Jackson, and in which two European gentlemen of position and breeding fell foul of each other, the one, accused, abusing the Doctor in a petition which he had filed in the civil suit of Mahomed Gezee versus Delaney. Phear J., jealous as he was of upholding the dignity and prestige even of the subordinate Courts in the Mofussil, would not permit a party to the suit in the course of legal proceedings and in solemn documents to indulge in vilification of his opponent in any unfair way, as is generally done in our lower Courts in the Mofussil and which, in the present case persons who were expected to know and do better, were led to do by the bitter feelings of personal spite and malice. The Sessions Judge, while finding as a fact that the matter complained of was defamatory and that the accused did not act in good faith, acquitted him by reversing the conviction by the Magistrate. After expounding the law of defamation as con-

tained in section 499, I. P. C., and commenting on the English cases, which lay down the doctrine that the uttering of defamatory matter, whether spoken or written, in a court of justice did not constitute a publication in fact, and that the occasion protected the utterer from an action for damages (though not from criminal prosecution in some form or other), the learned Judge says:

"But I think further that the Judge erred in looking outside the Penal Code itself for the purpose of ascertaining the criminal law of this country with regard to defamation. If the facts, which are the subject of a complaint, fall within the limits of the definition in section 499, construed as the section ought to be according to the plain meaning of the words therein used, and if they are not covered by any of the exceptions to be found in the Code, then, in my judgment, they amount to defamation quite irrespective of what may be the English Law on the same subject."

Then holding that it is the duty of the High Court, as a Court of revision, in a case when the Judge on Appeal upholds the finding of fact of a Magistrate and reverses his decision on a point of law, and acquits the prisoner and orders his discharge to restore the Magistrate's sentence as the acquittal was on a question of pure law, he says:—"It seems to me fitting that we should in this way interfere with the present case. The conduct of Mr. Delaney in one respect, no doubt, is so purely contemptible as to be perhaps unworthy of notice. The statements made by him in his petition are just those which fall from the mouths of the meanest prisoner in the dock in the vain hope of influencing the Court when the evidence against him proves conclusive; and, besides, they are so un-English that an English gentleman might afford to disregard them; but, on the other hand, it is, I think, most important in the interests of the public that the procedure of our Courts of Justice should not with impunity be used as the means of indulging feelings of personal spite. It is quite time for litigants in many of our Mofussil Courts to learn that, if they make written statements and petitions the vehicle of groundless accusations against their opponents or other persons, whatever may be their purpose, they do so at their own peril."

(To be continued.)

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a decree and an order made by the High Courts of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction in suit No. 585 of 1898 (wherein Rajeswar Mullick was plaintiff and Baney Madhub Banerjee and another were defendants and wherein Mussamat Mohun Bibee and Sew Prasad Shroff are now plaintiffs and Bipin Madhub Banerjee, Fomindro Nath Banerjee, Khogendro Nath Banerjee and another are now defendants,) and dated respectively the 9th day of January 1899, and the 7th day of December 1899 by the Registrar of the said Court Original Side in his saleroom in the Court House on Saturday the 24th day of March 1906, at 12 o'clock noon the following property belonging to the defendants Bipin Madhub Banerjee, Fomindro Nath Banerjee and Khogendro Nath Banerjee.

Lot No. I. No. 100-1 Taltollah Lane being the divided half part or share of and in the two and three storied brick built house together with the land appertaining thereto and containing by estimation 3 Cottas 12 Chhattaks the entirely containing by estimation 7 Cottas and 8½ square feet a little more or less the entirely formerly known as premises No. 100-1 Taltollah Lane and comprised the holding No. 59 Survey Block XIII in the fourth division of the town of Calcutta and bounded on the North by premises No. 101 Taltollah Lane being the dwelling house of Radha Churn Banerjee being premises No. 100 Taltollah Lane, on the East partly by premises No. 101 and partly by premises No. 100-1 Taltollah Lane, and on the west by Taltollah Lane, and paying an annual rent of Rs. 2-5-2 to the Collector of Calcutta in respect of the entire premises.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the office of Messrs. Manuel and Agarwalla the plaintiff's attorneys at No. 3, Hastings Street or at the office of the said Registrar on any day before the sale and be produced at the sale.

(Sd.) W. R. FINK,

Registrar,

Manuel and Agarwalla,

Plaintiff's Attorneys.

Calcutta, High Court O. S.

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Life, Letters and Correspondence

OF

DR. SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet"

BY

F. H. SKRINE, F.C.S., (now retired.)

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, 20th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memoir of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India" Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahman—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western leaving. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate, plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or depressing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The Pioneer, Allahabad) Oct 5, 1895

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,213.

OFFICIAL FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

The Accounts of 1904-1905 closed with a surplus of £3,456,066 being £29,434 less than the Revised Estimate. Revenue increased by £113,871 and Expenditure was less by £43,595, giving a gross improvement of £157,466. But the improvement in the Provincial and Local section was 186,900, and the Imperial result was therefore worse by 29,434. The chief increases of Revenue were:—Excise 51,424, Forest 40,997, Irrigation 39,836, and Assessed Taxes 14,002, but Opium Revenue was short by 22,501, Interest receipts by 20,121, and the net Railway Revenue Account by 149,062. There were decreases of expenditure under Army 139,006, Other Public Works 45,356, Direct Demands on Revenue 26,664, and Irrigation 24,947.

2. In the current year, the agricultural situation has been unfavourable in Kujputana, the United Provinces and the Deccan Districts of Bombay. This has necessitated extensive remissions and suspensions of Land Revenue in parts affected and has also involved some expenditure on relief works which will be larger in 1906-1907. Except in parts specially affected by drought, the revenue has come in well and shows signs of continued and healthy development.

3. The Revised Estimate shows a surplus of 1,755,700, being 851,900 larger than in the Budget Estimate. Revenue has increased by 1,396,500, and Expenditure is less by 906,100 giving a gross improvement of 2,302,600. Of this, however, 1,450,700 is in the Provincial and Local section, 400,000 of it being due to initial grants in connection with the new Provincial settlements with the Central Provinces and Eastern Bengal and Assam. The Railway Revenue Account and Mint show net improvements of 461,300, and 302,400, respectively. Increases of revenue also occur under Salt 76,700, Stamps 60,400, Excise 210,400, Other Principal Heads (chiefly Forest) 197,400, Interest 139,700, and Army 150,300. Land Revenue and net Irrigation revenue show decreases of 440,000 and 118,000. These give a net improvement of 940,600. Important decreases of expenditure are under Army 842,000, due mainly to charges for new artillery and stores being thrown forward to next year, Civil Departments 237,600, principally under Police, Education and Scientific Departments, Other Public Works 250,900, and Special Defences 61,200. Minor differences under other heads give a net worseness of 35,700.

4. The Budget Estimate of 1906-1907 shows a surplus of 874,100, which would have been 1,687,500 but for provision of 813,400 for the five following measures. First three are administrative improvements, namely, additional grant for police reform, 166,700; second, addition of 26,700 to current year's grant of 133,300 for agricultural and veterinary improvement; and third, grant for technical and European education, 33,300. Total of these three is 226,700. Fourth, by far the most important, provides at a cost of 547,900 for the repeal of the Patwari cess in Northern India and the Central Provinces, Ryotwari Village Service cess in Madras, Village Officers' cess in Coorg, and Zamindari Dak cess in Bengal and Eastern Bengal; charges hitherto defrayed from these cesses will in future be borne by Government. Fifth is relief at a cost of 34,600, of District Boards from contributions hitherto paid for district post in Northern India, Burma, Central Provinces and Coorg,

and of District Boards in United Provinces from some small Pachoy and establishment charges. Total Estimate of Revenue is 86,495,100 and of Expenditure charged against Revenue 85,621,000. On the assumption that seasons next year will be normal, development of revenue, as compared with Revised Estimate, is anticipated under almost all heads except Opium in which, in view of recent decline in prices, a falling-off of 659,400 is provided, price of Bengal opium being taken at Rs. 125 per chest, and Provincial Rates which is 513,300 less owing to remission of cesses mentioned above. Railway Revenue is 1,496,400 higher and charges 1,292,600 more—net improvement 203,800 over Revised—Land Revenue, after allowing for remissions and suspensions in the United Provinces and Bombay consequent on famine, is 735,500 more, considerable improvements being expected in Burma, United Provinces, Punjab and Bombay. Other improvements of revenue are Salt 63,300, Stamps 103,000, Excise 163,800, Customs, which show some drop in Revised, 139,300 and Irrigation Receipts 297,500. Other minor differences, chiefly under Interest and Mint, give net decrease of 161,500. Total increase of revenue is 1,665,600. Total increase of gross expenditure is 3,705,200, but of this 1,077,600 or 1,158,000 more than in the current year will be met from Provincial balances. The only decrease is in Interest charges 139,000; almost all other heads show increase, important items being Direct Demands on Revenue 287,300, chiefly Land Revenue; Salaries and Expenses of Civil Departments 1,140,600; Other Public Works 421,500; Army 406,400. Other differences give increase of 295,800. Chief items of increase under Salaries and Expenses of Civil Departments are—Police 410,100, Education 317,400 and Scientific and Minor Departments 151,200. Of the increase under Other Public Works, 91,500 is under Military Works and 331,500 under Civil Works. Increase under Army Services is due almost wholly to partial regrant of current year's lapses on grant for new artillery and stores. Total Military expenditure is 21,841,600 against 22,232,500 in this year's Budget and 21,233,800 in Revised. Provision for Famine Relief is 5,39,100 mainly in Bombay and the United Provinces.

5. For next year, the Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue is as follows:—Irrigation 633,300, State Railways 7,997,900, net outlay of Railway Companies 2,032,900, or a total of 10,664,100. In addition, 1,436,000 for the discharge of permanent debt—chiefly Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway debentures—456,700 for loans and advances, and 1,199,600 for the net payment under Deposits and Remittances have to be found. The total requirements are thus 13,187,400, of which 2,785,500 will be met from capital to be raised by Railway Companies; 608,000 from savings bank deposits, 874,100 from the Revenue surplus, and 5,000,000 from loans of two millions sterling in England and four-and-a-half crores of rupees, or 3,000,000 in India. The cash balances will provide the remainder 3,919,800, and they will stand at 12,305,770 in India and 5,218,981 in England on the 31st March 1907.

6. The Railway programme for next year stands thus:—Open lines including rolling stock 5,940,600, Lines under construction 3,594,734, Lines to be commenced next year 466,666. Total 10,000,000.

7. Council Bills for the Secretary of State's requirements next year are 17,800,000, but additional Bills will be sold, if needed, to meet the demands of trade.

DAYBREAK.

I saw the misty curtain rise,
To usher in the trembling dawn;
I watched the scene with wond'ring eyes,
And knew another day was born.
As though by magic woke---the earth,
Responsive to the Sun's embrace;
And, throbbing with the morning's mirth,
Began her melody of praise.
No flow'r---but raised its drooping head;
No bird---but warbled loud and long;
O'er hill and dale the music spread,
And crushed the sense of night and wrong.
So, fainting heart, march toward the light,
Although Life's way be dark and long;
Discordant voices of the night
Shall issue in triumphant song.
Tread well thy path; leave no false mark;
Be spotless as the driven snow;
Be sterling coin; e'en in the dark
Be true to the highest you know.
And when at last the morn shall break,
Radiant with the light of Truth,
Thy restless, drooping form shall wake
To hallowed calm, and ageless youth.

T. A. Lindsay.

---The Crescent, Feb. 14.

MR. JOHN MORLEY ON THE PARTITION.

House of Commons, Monday, February 26.

Mr. John Morley said :---This Parliament presents a considerable number already of new features, and it is a new feature and one, I think, on which we ought to congratulate ourselves, that this afternoon we have had six maiden speeches in succession from gentlemen who have shown themselves possessors of a competent knowledge of Indian subjects, and were eager to express the views which they represented. (Hear, hear.) I for one have no quarrel with Mr. Roberts. Though I am not one of those who desire the House of Commons should be always interfering with the complex and difficult affairs of India yet I think a debate of this kind can do nothing but good. (Hear, hear.) Upon the partition of Bengal I do not propose to detain the House very long. I wish very much for many reasons that Mr. Brodick was in the House, because he knows better than I can possibly know from the papers what was in the minds of the India Office and what was also in the minds of the Indian Government of that day. So far as my information goes, I cannot assent to the views of those gentlemen who have said that the movement for the partition of Bengal arose from political motives and from the desire to repress the expression of its political opinion. Whether the original motives may not have taken on some colour of that kind I am not in a position to affirm or deny. But I think Sir H. Cotton almost admitted that there was a case for the redistribution of the boundaries of the Province of Bengal in the amount of work laid upon the shoulders of the Governor of that province. He quoted in another connexion Lord George Hamilton and I am sure we all extremely regret the absence from our debates of noble Lord. (Hear, hear.) Lord George Hamilton had a longer experience at the India Office as Secretary of State than I think anybody now living. Lord George in December last said that so far as he could recollect, with scarcely an exception, he had ever come into contact with a Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal who, when pressed, did not at once admit that the work he had to perform was almost an undue strain upon his strength. There was ample evidence that the labours of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal were enormous. That is not saying that the specific redistribution of Bengal was the wisest that could be devised. Sir H. Cotton produced his own scheme to and one of two other gentlemen had made suggestions. But this is not the moment for a technical examination of the precise way in which this redistribution of the administrative areas was carried out. But, it was, and remains, undoubtedly an administrative operation which went wholly and decisively against the wishes of the post of the people concerned. (Hear, hear.) It had been said, and unfortunately by an important person in India, that this demonstration of opposition in Bengal, was "machine-made opinion," that it was the work of political wire pullers and political agitators. I have often heard that kind of allegation

made before Governments are apt when an inconvenient storm of public opinion arises, to lay it at the door of political wire-pullers and agitators (Hear, hear.) There are however, Indian officials of great weight and authority who entirely put aside that intimation, and who argue that these Calcutta agitators would have had no response from the people they were appealing to if there had not been in the minds of the people a distinct feeling that they were going to suffer a great wrong and inconvenience, and although no doubt the agitators could form and disseminate these views yet these sentiments and views existed quite independently of any wire pulling or agitation. That is my own conclusion from reading the papers. But the redistribution of Bengal is now a settled fact. At this moment there is a great subsidence---it might be only temporary---but there is a subsidence of the feeling against the redistribution; and in face of that it would be very unreasonable to ask the Government to start afresh to redistribute the areas and incur a new outlay of taxation. (Hear, hear.) As Sir Henry Cotton says, India has just had seven years of pomp and pageantry. The time has not yet come to pass any verdict upon the great administration of Lord Curzon. (Opposition cheers.) Some find the energy of it feverish, others find it glorious. At some future date the historian of that time will be able to pronounce much more effectively than we can what Lord Curzon's administration has effected and what not. But none of us will deny his fine power, his great gifts, and his supreme devotion to what he believed to be the public interests. (cheers.) But my own view is that, at the end of his great period India should now be allowed to take breath. Therefore, we should now move very slowly. I do not think it would be a desirable or even a defensible movement to attempt to reconstruct Bengal or to restore the old distribution of power in that area. Mr. Roberts suggested that there should be an increase in the number of officers on the Executive Council, an increase in the Legislative Council, and that there should be three natives added to the Council of the Secretary of State, and that there should be forthwith an advisory board set up in Calcutta.

Mr. Herbert Robert : No, an advisory board should be set up, not in Calcutta, but in all the districts of India for purposes of consultation.

Mr. Morley : I would point out that these advisory boards would have no responsibility, that all these other changes would need an Act of Parliament, and I doubt whether good results would follow. Whether the partition was a wise thing or not when it was begun, I am bound to say that nothing was ever worse done so far as the disregard which was shown to the feeling and opinion of the people concerned. (Cheers.) It is a fundamental principle in any Government in which Englishmen and Scotsmen are concerned that you are bound to consult and take into consideration all the opinions and even the prejudices of those affected. When the scheme was in the first place exhibited to the people of India it was exhibited bit by bit. The first proposal was, in one direction, to take certain areas; and the second proposal was an extension and alteration of that. The final scheme in which all these competitive efforts were summed up, was never submitted to the judgment of anybody in Bengal. The result of that was we saw a storm raised by a plan which was never carried out; and the storm which was so raised raged with just as much violence against the final scheme when it came to be carried out. I think that is a matter which no defender of the late Government will really stand up for. Coming to the last and most important part, in some respects certainly the widest part of the amendment, I do not think I need say much. I think I gather already that I need not at all assure how gentlemen who represent Indian interests specially, and I need not assure the House, that so long as I have any responsibility for Indian affairs I shall not be likely to depart from the general principles of Liberalism---Liberalism not in a party sense, but in that sense in which both parties in my opinion, desire to see India Govern. It seems to be sometimes forgotten that India had an ancient civilisation and that her people are not barbarians. The officials who have had most dealing with them admit, and not only admit but proclaim, that these people have in them admirable materials upon which you may by and by and in this case I do not at all object to the phrase step by step step---build up a system under which they shall have a far greater share than they now have in the Government. When this amendment was first put on the paper it urged that the Government should take the admission of the Natives of India to a greater share in the Government of India into their immediate consideration. The Viceroy has been on his throne, I think, three months, and I have occupied my office a few weeks

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with the trivial interlude of a contested election. For me, therefore, to guarantee the immediate taking of this matter into consideration would, I think, hardly be reasonable, and I am glad that the word has disappeared from the amendment. I, for one, shall deprecate in the case of anybody with whom I have any influence any resort to that rather harsh, rather arrogant and rather supercilious language towards the people of Bengal which has been used by some from whom I should not have expected it. In the whole field of government there has been enormous activity and energy, no doubt, during the last six or seven years—in education, public works, irrigation, railways, and in regard to the frontier. I am not going into the frontier question now. It was once said that the study of the Apocalypse either found a man mad or made him mad. I sometimes think when I hear these endless discussions about the frontier—not by responsible men, but by irresponsible men—that the North-West Frontier is almost as prejudicial a field of study in creating this state of mind as the apocalypse has been said to be. My own view can be expressed in a few sentences. Though the zeal of your officers—most honourable for them—for great public works has sometimes gone to excess, so far as I am concerned there will be no tendency to stay vigorous action on the part of the Government of India in the direction of works which are proved to be, or which there is good reason to expect will be, of a remunerative character. If you want security and strength in India, one of your ways of getting it is to lighten taxation—(hear, hear)—and I should look therefore, in the direction of greater economy in order to lighten taxation. I respond with all the conviction I have in me to the appeal for sympathy. You may call it sentiment if you like, but a man is ill fitted for the governing of other men if he does not give a large place to the operation of sentiment. (Cheers.)

EARL PERCY'S REPLY.

Earl Percy scarcely thought the Secretary of State had made out the charge of precipitancy in sanctioning this scheme which he had brought against the late Government. The original scheme was put forward at least three years ago, and it was largely owing to the public criticism with which it met that the present scheme was modified in very important particulars. So far as he knew, the only motive which actuated the late Government in sanctioning the scheme was to secure as far as possible the interests of administrative efficiency. The only wonder to him was that the change had been deferred so long. It was fifty years since Lord Dalhousie described the burden of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal as a greater burden than any single man could be expected to bear. Since then the population of Bengal had risen from 40,000,000 to 80,000,000. The only alternative solution was the adoption of the presidency system in force in Bombay and Madras. The population in the three provinces, however, showed a great disparity. The population of Bombay was 20,000,000; of Madras 40,000,000; of Bengal 80,000,000. Apart from that consideration, he doubted very much whether anybody starting de novo, with a tabula rasa, would ever have thought of advising the presidency system as one ideally suited to the needs of Indian Government. What was that system? A capable and experienced gentleman from England was sent out, but one who had none of that initial or personal knowledge of the people over whom he was to rule or of the problems he was expected to solve which every resident or administrator possessed. In order to correct that initial defect, there were associated with him two members of the Civil Service, whose practical control of affairs was as great as his own; in fact, the Lieutenant-Governor was made *primus inter pares* in a triumvirate, with the result that the Government had to content themselves with an impersonal authority in their officers. The transference of that system to the province of Bengal would have been attended with great disadvantage. Owing to the fixity of the land system in Bengal the Civil servants there were deprived of one of the readiest means of coming into contact with the lives and interests of the people. There was one very pertinent question which might be put to gentlemen who criticised the change, and that was, What individual or class would be benefited by the retention of the old system? He could imagine only three. The members of the legal profession would naturally be affected, as, in course of time, owing to the development of the new province the local courts there would necessarily absorb a great deal of the judicial business which would have passed through the High Court at Calcutta. Then there was the class of the absentee landowners, who in future would have to spend a great deal of their time at their own offices in the new provincial capital, and, lastly, there was the class whose principal occupation was political agitation, and who would find much of their material for agitation cut away when they were no longer able to point to the neglect of local interests, which, under the existing system, was almost inevitable. One of the main reasons for this change was the crying need of the province of Assam for the development of its material resources and an increased efficiency in its administration. Almost every

large area in India had its own civil administration gaining knowledge on the spot every year of its resources and requirements; but Assam had had for years past to borrow its administration from Bengal, and had lost all the advantage elsewhere derived from length and continuity of service. If there was one principle of government which was elementary, it was that all administration was bad which depended on borrowed men. The hon. member who moved the amendment had added to it an expression of opinion that the time had come for associating the people of India in a larger measure with the management of their own affairs. That was rather a large subject to tack on as a rider to an amendment to the Address. He supposed they all desired, whatever the form of government, not only to treat the feelings of the inhabitants with respect, but also, as time went on and as they showed themselves fit, to give them wider opportunities of expressing their opinions on questions that interested them. But even the mover of the amendment recognised that the process of evolution must be a gradual one. Legislative Councils were not introduced until 1861, and thirty years elapsed before any provision was made for Native representation upon them, and he thought it would be rash to say that the experience of the fourteen years since then afforded sufficient basis on which to ground a justification for a further step in that direction. Considering the character of India, and the fact that it was as large as the whole of Europe, excluding European Russia, he thought it was obvious that English rule could not be permanent in that country unless, to a certain extent, the principle of unity of method was adhered to. No system could be applied to any one part of India unless it was applied to all. Though he did not desire any harsh repression of the political aspirations of any section of the community, he thought it was safe to say that a great many of the views put forward by orators at the Congress were not only wholly opposed to the views of the large majority of the inhabitants of India, but, if translated into practice, would be wholly unsuited to their practical needs and requirements. There was no doubt the present scheme had given rise to a great deal of discontent, and he agreed with the right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Duchy that there was no proposal, even at home, which was more certain to awaken bitterness and opposition than a proposal to alter old geographical limitations. But there was this to be said in favour of the scheme of administrative readjustment proposed by the Government of India, that, not only did it subvert the interests of administrative tradition, but it actually secured far better grouping than hitherto existed both in language and nationality. He would only observe in conclusion that precisely the same kind of opposition had been raised over and over again with regard to administration. They all remembered the great outcry raised in connexion with the severance of the frontier province from the province of the Punjab, a change which was now almost universally regarded as very successful.

Sir H. Cotton said there was no popular objection to that change. Whatever objection there was was purely official.

Earl Percy said it was very difficult to gauge how far an agitation represented popular feeling. Personally, he doubted not, from the former precedents, that within a very short time, perhaps five or six years, those now loudest in their denunciation of the change would be the first to recognise and pay a tribute of admiration to Lord Curzon's courage in facing temporary unpopularity for the sake of the permanent interest and efficiency of the government of India. (Hear, hear.)

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 24 1906

THE PARTITION IN PARLIAMENT.

FULL report of the debate in the House of Commons on the Partition of Bengal is to hand. The debate was opened by Mr. Herbert Roberts on the 26th February last, when he moved the following amendment to the Address:

But we humbly beg to represent to your Majesty that his House regards with concern the widespread dissatisfaction and unrest in India due to the recent policy of the Government, culminating in the Partition of Bengal, and is of opinion that such modifications should be made in the form of administration in Bengal as will tend to allay the existing discontent; and we further beg to represent to your Majesty that the reasonable demands of the Indian people for a larger share in the administration of their affairs should receive the consideration of the Government.

In his speech, Mr. Roberts referred to the manner

in which the partition was effected. He pointedly alluded to the debate in the House of Commons in August last on his motion for the adjournment of the House. It will be remembered that on that occasion Mr. Brodrick undertaking to present further papers, the motion was withdrawn, and the public inferred that before the House of Commons had considered the question, the partition would not be carried out. But Mr. Brodrick, behind the back of Parliament and swallowing his promise, sanctioned the measure at the insistence of Lord Curzon, and the partition became operative on the 16th October. It was this deliberate slight to the House of Commons, which more than ever accentuated the agitation against partition, creating in the people a settled belief that even the House of Commons was powerless against official cliquism. First came a feeling of disappointment, but it was temporary, giving place to a determination which resulted in the starting of the boycott of British goods. Mr. Herbert Roberts devoted a great part of his speech to urging an extension of Local Self-Government in India. He said that circumstances had progressed since 1892 when the Indian Councils Act authorized an increase in the number of members of the Legislative Councils. He referred to the spread of education and western thought, and to the impression created by the victory of Japan over Russia during the late war. He fully believed that larger introduction of the Indian element in the administration would, instead of weakening the interests of the rulers, strengthen the loyalty of the people and secure the solidarity of the Empire in the real sense of the term.

Sir Henry Cotton was the first to support Mr. Herbert Roberts' amendment. He delivered a lengthy address which opened with a reference to the unstinted loyalty of the Indians towards England. Said Sir Henry in explanation :

A gentleman whose name would be unknown to this House, but which was a household word in his own country who had for forty years been one of the leaders of political progress, and who had unsparingly criticised men and measures, and who was in consequence regarded with suspicion by the administration ; that gentleman was brought into contact with his Royal Highness, and, somewhat to his surprise, was introduced to him. He fell upon his knees and with folded hands and in faltering accents, protested his loyalty and devotion to the Crown and to this country. That action on the part of one who was unjustly charged with disloyalty was a very remarkable one, because it was the strongest evidence of the goodwill and loyalty, which lay at the heart of the educated Indian people.

Sir Henry then entered into a detailed narration of the changes initiated by Lord Curzon, dwelling upon the policy of the late Government of India to check the aspiration of Indians by introducing retrograde measures, such as the University legislation, the press Act, the reconstitution of the Calcutta Municipality, the abolition of the competitive test, and lastly, the partition of Bengal. Sir Henry was of opinion that the division of Bengal was made with the object of weakening the political influence of Calcutta and the growing solidarity of the Bengalee race. We need not stop to examine the oft-repeated objections to the measure. Suffice it to say that Sir Henry faithfully recounted all the charges that had been brought against Lord Curzon for partitioning Bengal, and described the degree to which the carrying out of the measure against the opposition of the people, had exasperated the public feeling. Towards the conclusion of his rather indi-

gestible speech, he admitted that the partition could not be undone, and as a means of conciliating outraged public opinion, he put before the House of Commons the scheme he had suggested in a speech at the Town Hall, Calcutta. He pointed out the advisability of separating Behar and Chota Nagpur from Bengal and letting the Bengalee-speaking races be in a united state, governed by one ruler and living under one administration. The scheme is good, and we remember having advanced it as soon as the Government of India letter first announcing the intention of Lord Curzon to partition Bengal, was published as far back as December 1903. Somehow, no other scheme of lessening the weight that now presses upon the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was agreeable to the Government of Lord Curzon, and after cogitations extended over 2½ years, was passed the scheme which is now in force, under which Sir Bampfylde Fuller is the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam. It was to obviate the difficulty of undoing the partition that Sir Henry pressed the Secretary of State to adopt his scheme. Would it not be undoing the partition ? What is then to be the fate of the buildings built at Dacca, Shillong, and elsewhere, and the public works underraken, of the changes already effected, of the money spent upon the raising of a new province ? The difficulty seems more real than Sir Henry's estimate of it.

Sir Henry Cotton was followed by Sir John Jardine pleading in a short speech for extended employment of Indians in the Executive service ; Mr. J. D. Rees admitting the feeling in Bengal against the partition and referring to the support given to it by the planting community, and urging the employment of more Indians in the judicial service only, as Indians made "admirable judges ;" Mr. C. J. O'Donnell in a more lengthy speech vigorously condemning the policy of Lord Curzon. He referred to the Calcutta Municipality, the education policy, the Assam cooli legislation, the wrong done to Sir Henry who had every claim to getting the Lieutenant Governorship of Bengal, and to the meaninglessness of the partition. Mr. O'Donnell said that Sir Andrew Fraser had never been a single day in Bengal and naturally found the task of governing the great province an extremely difficult one. He did not think that the population argument was a good enough justification for the partition : " The difficulty of the government of a country was not a question of population. It was more difficult to administer government to 1,000,000 Englishmen than 80,000,000 Bengalis ; 70,000,000 of the Bengalis out of the 80,000,000 were mere peasants. Another point urged by the Government was that there had been such a great increase in the population. That was also incorrect. There had been censuses taken, and he had carried out the third, and he had come to the conclusion that the increase of the population was due to the better numeration of the people. But even so, such an argument was ridiculous. The population of England increased threefold during the last century, but nobody ever heard of partitioning England up into different governments." Mr. O'Donnell did not, for obvious reasons perhaps, give his own opinion on the idea of Sir Henry and others that the partition had been carried out for political reasons, namely, to break up the Bengalee race. He was followed by Mr. Hart-Davies who had much confidence in Mr. Morley, and by Mr. Donald Simeon suggesting the appointment of a Royal

Commission to enquire into Indian public opinion and devise a system to satisfy it.

Mr. Morley then rose. He dwelt at some length upon the controversy. His speech appears in another column. The great merit of the speech is that Mr. Morley has therein indicated certain lines of policy which, if followed, will secure the better government of India. He has admitted the existence of a strong feeling against the partition and the stress India has just passed through owing to Lord Curzon's vigorous rule. He deprecates the haste and the manner in which the partition was carried out. He has condemned the slight deliberately shown to public opinion, and the preparation of the scheme behind the back of the people most interested in it and to be most affected by it. "The result of that was," says Mr. Morley, "that we saw storm raised by a plan which was never carried out; and the storm which was so raised raged with just as much violence against the final scheme when it came to be carried out. I think," he adds "that is a matter which no defender of the late Government will really stand up for." He reminded the House that Indians were not barbarians, but were easily capable of discharging high duties, and gave the assurance that he would try to fulfil their legitimate aspirations slowly and gradually. If you want security and strength in India, one of your ways of getting it is to lighten taxation," and "a man is ill-fitted for the governing of other men if he does not give a large place to the operation of sentiment." Lord Curzon's idea of securing strength and security was to strengthen the frontiers and scoff at those who demanded a decrease of the army expenditure, and his policy was to force the people to set aside sentiment.

Earl Percy next defended the measure in the stereotyped way. The amendment was withdrawn by Mr. Herbert Roberts.

THE LAST STRUGGLE.

We do not intend to speak in this article about the Partition of Bengal—an accomplished fact, which division or duplication the new Secretary of State for India is unwilling, because of that accomplishment, to reconsider at the present moment. We have in view the moribund Bengal Social Science Association.

It was in December 1866 that Miss Mary Carpenter visited Calcutta and delivered an Address at the Rooms of the Asiatic Society to a large and influential audience, including the then Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor. It was in pursuance of a Resolution passed at that meeting that the Association was formed.

For the first six or seven years, it did useful work. In the next seven or eight years it was not idle. Then it lapsed into somnolence, to be awakened on the 15th March 1897. That awakening is to be its death. After that revival at a special meeting, at the Dalhousie Institute, the Association showed no better sign of life. The notice for that meeting was issued by Mr. (now Sir Alexander) Pedler, the surviving Honorary Secretary, the other Honorary Secretary being the late Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, who had worked hard for the Association. It was presided over by Mr. Justice Beverley, Vice-President. At that time, there were living about 3 dozen ordinary members. Of these, 8 or 9 or one-fourth were present at

the meeting. Eighty new members were elected. The Council was reformed. Mr. Justice Rampini, a new member, was elected President. Dr. C. A. Martin, a new member, and Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, an old member, were elected Vice-Presidents. Mr. Pedler was re-elected Secretary and Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman elected Secretary, both the Secretaries being old members. Since that reconstruction, there has been no meeting of the Association. Nor is it proposed to hold any meeting for any of its regular or extraordinary business. A fatal resolution is, however, in circulation to the members. On the eve of his retirement, Mr. Justice Beverley entrusted the Association to Mr. Justice Rampini. It now turns out that his connection with the Association is to be nothing else than its death. From the papers circulated to the members, it appears that Sir Alexander Pedler is anxious, on the eve of his retirement, to make over the Fund of the Association to the Calcutta University. A letter dated the 15th March 1906, or exactly nine years after the revival, from the other Secretary to the members, says:

Sir Alexander Pedler, one of the original Honorary Secretaries, is about to retire from India, and is anxious that something should be done with the money before he leaves the country. He proposes that the money should be handed over to Government, under the Charitable Endowments Act, with the Director of Public Instruction as Administrator of the Fund, in order to found one or more scholarships in the University of Calcutta, to encourage the study of Political Economy.—I shall be obliged if you be so good as to let me know if you approve of the proposal of Sir Alexander Pedler, or would wish the money to be devoted to any other object, or would desire to have another effort made to revive the Association.—Kindly sign and return the enclosed letter in the stamped and addressed envelope before the 25th instant.

The members are allowed only nine days, or a day for each year of renewed somnolence, to come to a decision. They are, at the end of nine years required, by the Secretaries, to be extraordinarily active while the Association is asleep. They are practically further precluded from considering all the three proposals. The "enclosed" letter is very significant. It is:

I do (or do not) approve of the proposal of Sir Alexander Pedler.

A foot-note says:

Please strike out the word 'do' or the words 'do not.'

So, a member is limited to saying whether he approves the Sir Alexander proposal or not. No room is left for suggestion of any other object, to which the money, if so decided upon, could be devoted. The stern demand is—Yes or No. In this abbreviated form of reply, and considering that the Association has again gone to sleep, many members may be disposed to strike out the words 'do not.' Any number of such 'do's will give no sufficient authority to the Honorary Secretaries, either jointly or severally, to extinguish the sum of Rs. 6,000 in the books of the Association, or empower Alexander the Great of the Association to appropriate the sum for his University. Apart from these and other considerations, why should Sir Alexander be so anxious for the money of the Association and not the Association itself? He has been of no use to the Association, and the best thing he can do is to leave it alone or sleeping and enjoy his own rest in retirement.

It does not appear from the papers circulated

that Mr. Justice Rampini is of the same view with Sir Alexander Pedler. As President, his voice should be more authoritative than that of the Secretary. If he is unable to keep the Association alive, or to make it active, he must know his course. His time too in the service is nearly up. Some other Judge of the High Court may be willing to work the Association and revive the useful activity of its early years. Sir George Campbell, who was at one time its President, in his annual address, in 1874, said :

My opinion is that an Association of this character should become in this country a sort of Social Parliament, where great subjects may be discussed, and great influence may be exercised.—In taking part in discussions of this kind, Europeans and Natives may meet upon common ground.

The object of the Association, to quote the Secretary's letter of the 25th February 1897, is

to promote the development of social progress in the Presidency of Bengal by uniting Europeans and Indians of all classes in the collection, arrangement, and classification of facts, bearing on the social, intellectual and moral condition of the people.

Let it not be said, of the two Europeans holding such high trusts as the Director of Public Instruction and a Judge of the High Court, that they desire no longer such union of the Europeans and Indians in India. The gulf between the two is widening, and every effort should be made to abridge it. Instead of such a proposal, we are to face one in the other direction. There is now in Calcutta no society where the two can meet for the same object. The Dalhousie Institute had a hall of its own, but no funds, and, unable to pay the municipal rates, passed into new hands for a new purpose, only the name remaining. The Bethune Society, without a local habitation and a fund, shows no sign of life. The Bengal Social Science Association, with a fund, is to be deprived of it and sent the way of the Bethune Society.

There is, which the law prohibits robbing of the dead. Here is divesting the dormant of its property, with the apparent approval of a Judge of the High Court.

We read in the "Hindoo Patriot" (Mar. 21) :

The suspended animation of the Bengal Social Science Association, brought into existence in the winter of 1866, at which birth the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal attended, is about to end—not in resuscitation, but in absolute extinction. It will not be the demise of a pauper, for it owns a fund of Rs. 6,000. It has been proposed to make over the sum to the Calcutta University for scholarships to encourage the study of Political Economy. The Association was revived in March 1897. Before it draws its full breath, it is to breathe no more. Why make it die ? That duty, unpleasant or agreeable, must be reserved for those who raised or supported it, that is, the old members who contributed to the fund, now to be given away, or their legal heirs,—and not the new who may have joined the Association after the revival of 1897 and not established their right by any contributions to the fund, to vote that fund away. Is there no possibility of continuing the revival, or no other object to which the money could be devoted ? We hope those who are prepared to sign the death warrant, will be sure of their legal status for exercise of such an authority.

The closing sentence, by suggesting questions of law, doubts the legality of the proposed step. It is highly desirable that all doubts and uncertainties should be settled before the fatal step proposed by the Secretary of the Association for the benefit of the University of which he is the Vice-Chancel-

lor, is taken. Lord Minto, the Chancellor of the University, as the Governor-General of India in Council felt himself powerless to entertain a request of the Senate for further time to put in the regulations, as the Advocate General had doubted his authority in that behalf under the law. Lord Curzon, who gave us the Imperial Library, was advised not only to buy up the Metcalfe Hall, but also secure the right of the proprietary subscribers of the Public Library before he could inaugurate his Imperial Library. It seems to us that the new members of the Association, who were simply proposed and elected, or the new office bearers appointed on the 15th March 1897, who never exercised, nor had any occasion to exercise, the rights and privileges of their appointment, on payment of subscription ensuring their membership, are not the proper proprietors of the fund existing before their time. It is doubtful whether any of them is competent to take any part in the disposal of the fund, far less vote for its extinction. For that purpose, all old members or their heirs, administrators, representatives and assigns must agree, in the recognized way. The manner in which the transfer, to use no harsh word, is proposed, is, to say the least, most irregular. We hope, in decency and the interest of the Association, Mr. Justice Rampini, as its President, will stop it, unless he holds that he has not the authority and that Sir Alexander Pedler the Secretary is supreme, whose right there is none in the Association or outside it to dispute.

While resuscitating the Association, Mr. Justice Beverley said :

As long as there were a few gentlemen, European and Indian, who took a personal interest in the Association, it was a success.....I don't think it requires really very many persons to run an Association of this sort. I think that if there are some half a dozen men who will really throw their hearts into it, they might keep the Association going.

We think a President and a Secretary of the kind, with an energetic paid assistant, may do the same.

In the Association, Sir Alexander Pedler appears to be

Like that self-begotten bird
In the Arabian woods embost,
That no second knows nor third.

There, after years of membership, though not a phoenix of his kind, but

vigorous most
When most unactive deem'd,

he builds a pile to burn the Association and out of the ashes to raise a scholarship by which his fame may survive that destruction many ages,

And though its body die his fame survives
A secular bird ages of lives.

The retiring Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, will require no memorial. Sir Alexander Pedler himself secures, by the death, from neglect amounting to strangulation, of a body he with others agreed to revive, a monument which will last with the refreshed Calcutta University.

At the Viceroy's Legislative Council, on Wednesday, the 21st March, Mr. Baker, the Finance Minister, introduced and explained the Financial Statement for the ensuing year 1906-1907. The year 1903-04, following the Coronation Celebration Durbar, was marked by a slight remission in general taxation,—a reduction in salt duty from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 2 per maund, and the exemption of incomes below Rs. 1,000 a year from the income tax. The year of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales is to be followed by the abolition of some local cesses—the withdrawal of the patwari cess and village officers' cess, levied in Madras, the Central Provinces, the United Provinces, the Punjab, and the North-West Frontier Province, and in Ajmer and Coorg; and the abolition of the zemindari dak cess in Bengal, old and new. On that occasion, the remission involved a sum of two crores. On the present, the total sacrifice of revenue is rather more than 82 lakhs of rupees per annum.

THEIR Royal Highnesses came and have gone. They landed at Bombay on the 9th November 1905, and embarked at Karachi on the 19th March 1906. In their tour in His Majesty's Indian Empire, they have left everywhere a good impression, strengthening the bonds between the King-Emperor and his subjects. Their reception by the people was hearty and loyal, and Their Royal Highnesses were kind and gracious.

By command of the King Emperor the Prince of Wales held an investiture at Karachi on March 18 on the conclusion of His Royal Highness's visit to India, when the following appointments were made in the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire and the Royal Victorian Order.

To be G.C.I.E., Sir W. R. Lawrence, K.C.I.E., chief of the Prince of Wales's staff.

To be K.C.S.I., Lieutenant-Colonel Sir A. Bigge, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Private Secretary to the Prince of Wales; Major General S. B. Beatson, C.B., Military Secretary to the Prince of Wales in India.

To be K.C.V.O.—His Excellency Vice-Admiral E. Poe C.V.O., Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Naval Forces in the East Indies; Mr. F. R. Upcott, C.S.I., Chairman of the Railway Board; Major General B. Duff, C.B., C.I.E., Adjutant-General in India; Mr. H. A. Stuart, C.S.I., Director of Criminal Intelligence in India; Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Charles, I.M.S., Surgeon to the Prince of Wales in India.

To be a Knight Bachelor, Mr. S. H. C. Hutchinson, Director-General of Telegraphs in India.

To be C.S.I., Commodore the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt, M.V.O., H. M. S. Renown.

To be C.I.E., Major R. E. Grimston, Major C. F. Campbell, and Major H. D. Watson, Aides-de-Camp to the Prince of Wales in India.

To be M.V.O., (4th Class), Mr. H. C. Mules, Collector of Karachi; Munshi Azizuddin, Deputy Commissioner of Berar; Major H. L. Roberts; Captain H. Hill; Captain G. Makins; Captain the Hon. W. Cadogan, Honorary Aides-de-Camp to the Prince of Wales in India.

To be M.V.O., (5th Class), Mr. Herbert Kelway Bainber, East Indian Railway; Sardar Bahadur Rissaldar Mirza Karim Beg of the Bhopal Victoria Lancers.

His Royal Highness also presented the Viceroy's Sanads conferring the title of Rai Bahadur on Babu Mati Lal Ganguli, Treasurer in the Foreign Office, and Assistant Surgeon Hira Lal Basu of the General Hospital, Calcutta, and afterwards presented medals of the Royal Victorian Order to various recipients.

THE following telegraphic correspondence has passed between His Majesty the King-Emperor and His Excellency the Viceroy:—

Viceroy to King-Emperor dated 18th March 1906.

On the departure of Their Royal Highnesses from India

I hope I may be permitted to assure Your Majesty of the signal success of Their Royal Highnesses' visit, and of the unbounded pleasure it has afforded Your Majesty's Indian subjects.

King-Emperor to Viceroy dated 19th March 1906.

Much touched by your kind words. Delighted that visit of Prince and Princess has been such a success, and am most grateful to you and those in authority under you, and to the whole populace for the magnificent reception granted to them.

A Gazette of India Extraordinary dated Calcutta, Monday, March 19, 1906, has the following appointment in Army Department:

Major-General B. Duff, C.B., C.I.E., Adjutant General in India, is appointed Chief of the Staff, with effect from the 19th March 1906.

BABU Priya Laul Ganguly gave an entertainment to his friends on the 17th instant, when the Amateur Dramatic Club gave a performance of the *Sansar* described in our issue of 7th October last. Our friend who witnessed both the performances, assures us that the few defects he pointed out on the last occasion, were remedied and uncle Nabo now looked a perfect gentleman with a dignified bearing in keeping with his philanthropic character. Little Bama was as perfect as ever, and most of the other actors did their parts creditably well.

INDUSTRIAL development of a gigantic nature is under contemplation in Bombay. The tremendous quantity of water that flows down the Ghats of the Samhyadri near the G. I. P. Railway tunnels, along the Poona and Nask lines, is to be utilized by erecting irrigation works. After supplying sufficient water to the electric mills under contemplation, the water that will roll down the falls will of course be used for agricultural purposes, and therefore the Government of Bombay have, it is said, promised help. Those who have seen the Gherchappa falls of Belgaum with the mills worked with electric power, can easily realize the practicability of the scheme.

Now that the Victoria Memorial, the Taj of the twentieth century, will soon be built, we are supplied by a friend with a few details from Sleeman's "Rambles." "Tavernier saw this building (the Taj) commenced and finished; and tells us that it occupied 2,00,00 men for 22 years. The mausoleum itself and all the buildings that appertain to it cost 3,17,48,026, three crores, seventeen lakhs, forty-eight thousand and twenty-six Rupees, or 3,17,4802 pounds sterling:—three million, one hundred and seventy four thousand eight hundred and two. I asked my wife (says Sleeman), when she had gone over it what she thought of the building? 'I cannot,' said she, 'tell you what I think for I know not how to criticize such a building, but I can tell you what I feel. I would die to-morrow to have such another over me.' This is what many a lady has felt no doubt. Lord Curzon's best legacy to Calcutta, the Queen of the British Indian Empire, will soon be the proud possessor of such an architectural monument, and we shall have the satisfaction of having our Guru, the late editor of "Reis and Rayyet" on one of its walls, as his portrait has been accepted for the Hall. It was a happy circumstance that the foundation was laid by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the grandson of Victoria the Good, whose name this future gem of architecture is to bear. The marble of the Taj was brought from the Jaypur Territories and the sand-stone from the neighbourhood of Dholpur and Fatepur Sikri. It was designed by Austin de Bordeaux, a Frenchman of great talent and merit. He was called by the natives (Sleeman adds) Oostan Esan, Nadir of Asur, the wonderful man of the art and was paid only one thousand Rupees a month with occasional presents that made his income very large. He is supposed to have been poisoned by

the Portuguese at Cochin, who were extremely jealous of his influence at court. He left a son by a native called Mahomed Shureef, who was employed as an architect on a salary of five hundred rupees a month.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen, a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, has been granted furlough from the 30th March to the 30th August 1906. Mr. H. Holmwood, I.C.S., officiates as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal during the absence on furlough of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen or until further orders.

WE read in the "Bengalee," (Mar. 24):

"Yesterday we published a letter from our Chandpur Correspondent stating that the Sub-Divisional Officer had called upon the gentlemen who were absent at the Reception of the Lieutenant-Governor, for an explanation of their absence, coupled with the threat that in the absence of a satisfactory explanation, he would recommend the removal of their names from the Durbar list of the District. What a threat!"

The exclamation requires an explanation. Those in the Durbar list cannot complain if they are asked to explain their absence. One who wishes to be a Durbari must always honour the invitations to a function of the kind. The invitations by command are in the nature of royal commands and must be obeyed or the absence accounted for. Kumar Indeer Chunder Sing's reply to the Lieutenant-Governor, who was a friend to his family and wished to befriend him, was rude. His reply showed that he was not anxious for a seat in the Belvedere Durbar for which he cared little. Those who are of his mind should ask for the removal of their names from the Durbar list, and not make a grievance of any demand for explanation of their conduct.

THE LATE SIR JOHN BUDD PHEAR AND HIS JUDGMENTS.

(Concluded from page 130)

Mr. Justice Phear was equally at home whether he had to determine cases under the criminal law or the most intricate and abstruse questions of Hindu law as prevalent in the different Schools or cases under the Indian Revenue and Rent Acts and Regulations, and the peculiar landed estates and tenures of this country. A lawyer of high ability and legal acumen, well-knowing the different systems of law and jurisprudence, he would shirk no difficult point but felt a pleasure in grappling with the most complicated and knotty problems of our ill-digested Codes and heterogeneous system of law and procedure. He had a marvellous faculty of stating the principles of law and analysing the salient facts of a case, of understanding and examining the texts and authorities on the subject and then forming his own independent and decisive opinion and conclusion after the most conscientious and anxious consideration, with all due deference to the views of his dissentient colleagues without any trace of dogmatism or egotistic declaration of his own infallibility. In his interpretation of Acts and Statutes, although he would look to the strict letter of the law, he would not depart from the spirit and broad reason of the law or from the justice and equity of the particular case.

He took part in deciding some of the leading cases in Hindu Law. There too, he displayed remarkable grasp of the subject, vast erudition, power of reasoning and intimate knowledge of details, and full and sympathetic appreciation of the genius and spirit of the great lawgivers of old. Though his judgment dismissing plaintiff's suit in the great Tagore Will case was reversed on appeal, yet many of the principles discussed and laid down and observations made by him were affirmed. For instance, it was seriously discussed in many cases whether a Hindu can by will create a trust, and it was held in this case that he could and that devices were not void on the ground that they were under trust and that a testator could create by means of a devise to trustees such estates and beneficial interests as he could have created without the intervention of trustees. In that case first heard by him, in his judgment dated the 1st April, 1869, he says:

"I confess the broad assertion that trusts are unknown to Hindu

Law, took me somewhat by surprise. There is probably no country in the world where fiduciary relations exhibit themselves so extensively and in such varied forms, as in India, and possession or dominion over property coupled with the obligation to use it, either wholly or partially for the benefit of others than the possessor, is, I imagine, familiar to every Hindu. I need only point to the cases of the mother acting as guardian of her infant child, the Karta of a joint family managing on behalf of minor or absent members, and the gomasta buying, selling and trading in his own name for the benefit of an unseen principal. If it be said that in these instances and others which might be mentioned, the guardian, manager or gomasta is only an agent, and differs from a trustee, in the strictest sense of the word, in this namely, that his powers are referable to the authority of the person for whose benefit he acts, and not to any sort of ownership in himself, I would add that in my opinion this circumstance does not materially affect the essence of the trust. No doubt, in this country, where Courts of Justice are not distinguished by their functions into Courts of Law and Courts of Equity, and where law and equity are administered by the same tribunal, there is no occasion for the creation and maintenance of an equitable estate in property, as separate from the legal estate..... But I think that whether a man accepts property on the terms of giving another person a specified benefit out of it, or whether he undertakes to manage property on behalf of another, our Courts will, in both cases alike, know how to make him discharge the obligation under which he comes, and I do not hesitate to believe that it is in entire accordance with the genius of the Hindu Law that they should do so. It seems to me further, that even if an owner of property, when disposing of it, professed in terms to place a bare legal estate of inheritance in one set of persons and to give the whole beneficial enjoyment of the property to another set, his disposition would not therefore and for that reason alone be entirely void. The Courts of this country, as Courts of Equity would look at the substance of the transaction and would as far as practicable treat such person beneficially interested, as actual owner to the extent of his interest, disregarding entirely the pretended legal estate. They would, so to speak, enact a statute of uses for themselves and effectually apply it. It is thus, that in all benami holdings, the man in whose name the conveyance is made and to whom the ostensible insignia of ownership are given, is counted as nobody. Except in cases where third persons have been misled and others falling under special legislative enactment, the Courts simply ask who is the person entitled to the enjoyment of the property, and him they consider to be, in all respects, the proprietor..... Although our Courts know nothing of a legal title as distinguished from an equitable title, they can, I apprehend, easily understand the predicament of property placed under the dominion and control of one person, in order that he may deal with it and manage it for special purposes involving the benefit of others. In few words, the non-existence of the English equitable estate does not necessitate the non-recognition of a trust, except, perhaps, in the very rudest states of civilization, trust ownership will most certainly spring into being, and the interests of society require that, within certain limits at least, effect should be given to these by Courts of Justice x x x. Excluding then all considerations

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WARD XI.

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The Committee commenced their Vikshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408 9 6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

of duality of estates, inasmuch as such a proprietary phenomenon cannot arise, and any attempt to create it would be fruitless, it seems to me that the question which is now under discussion, ceases to be a question of Hindu Law in particular, and is simply a matter to be governed by rule of public policy. When once the voluntary alienation of property, i.e., the power of transferring dominion over it to another, is conceded by law to a proprietor (and this undoubtedly the Hindu Law of Bengal does concede) the terms and conditions upon which the transfer is to be effected cannot very consistently be controlled except so far as they may bear upon, or be hostile to, the general interests of society. The true question then at this point is not—does positive law allow it; but does any law or rule of policy forbid it? Now, obviously, it is not generally considered, as of necessity, detrimental to the interests of society that power and dominion over property, without any other governing owner, should reside in persons bound to abstain from personal enjoyment of the property and to devote all the proceeds to special purposes. Upon a basis of this sort, stand all gifts to Idols, although no doubt, the abstract entity, the deity, is made in such a case to appear as the proprietor. So also do foundations for public purposes, such as gifts in support of public charities, schools and hospitals of which, I am happy to say, there are many in Bengal, owing their origin to the munificence of Hindu gentlemen. As far as I am aware, there are no circumstances here in any sense parallel with those which, in feudal times, rendered trust estates objectionable in England; and I should find it impossible to declare judicially that Hindu Law was such as to render it illegal to vest property in trustees for the purpose of carrying out objects of the just mentioned kind. It follows then, I think, that this disposing of property, through the machinery of a trust, is not of itself contrary to law. But more than this, our books of reports are literally full of cases in which trusts, particularly trusts by Will, form the main substance of the litigation, and I cannot find that a single word was ever breathed against the legality of these. The case of *Hurryday Banerjee versus Hogg* reported in *L. Ind. Jur.*, p. 86, in which the present Chief Justice delivered a considered judgment, is but one example among many. It is also worth remarking that Jagannath, in his Commentary on text 30 Bk. 2, Chapter 4, sec. 2, discusses the nature of a husband's tenure of certain property on behalf of his wife which is supposed to be given to him for her (not to her through him) and calls him a trustee. It is clear, I think, that this Hindu writer, whatever the value of his opinion, did not entertain the thought of a trust being repugnant to the genius of Hindu law. Neither did it occur to him to ascribe the conception of a trust to the growth of modern ideas."

What a lucid and admirable exposition of a very difficult subject.

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In the great Hindu Widow chastity case of *Kery Kolutany* which was heard by a Full Bench of 10 Judges in the year 1873, (XIII B. L. R., p. 1.), he took the view of the majority led by Sir R. Couch, C. J., on grounds of expediency and gradual modification and adoption of the original precepts of the Hindu Law to the requirements and ideas of modern society by a uniform course of current decisions:

"I concur substantially in the whole of it [Chief Justice's judgment]....I desire, however, to say that I quite perceive the great force of the argument by which my learned brother Mitter, J., has supported his view of the law applicable to the case, and the clearness with which he has expounded the ancient texts. Had the matter been *res integra*, and had we been now called upon for the first time to determine, upon the foundation of these texts alone, the limitations to which a Hindu widow's enjoyment of property should be subjected, I think it possible that we might arrive at a result very different from anything which has hitherto been recognised by our Courts as the widow's right. At the same time, I also feel very certain that nothing can be conceived much more remote from that which was probably in contemplation of the Hindu law sages, than the exceedingly artificial subject,....namely, an estate of inheritance in the widow, subject to defeasance, after vesting, upon the occurrence of a contingent event. We have only to look at this principal text of Narada:—'When the husband is dead, his kin are the guardians of his childless widow. In the disposal of the property and care of her person, as well as in her maintenance, they have full power'—in order to become aware how great is the modification, and the amount of adaptation to modern requirements, which the old Hindu texts must be made to undergo, x x x. It has been for some time judicially settled by the long series of decisions....., that,....at her husband's death, in the absence of a son, grandson, &c., if she be then without disqualification, succeed to her husband's property, and represents it fully as an estate of inheritance; and further, that she does not forfeit it on the consequent occurrence of disqualification; that in these two particulars she is in the situation as a male heir. We are now asked to say that so far as the last particular is concerned, the decisions have violated the spirit of the Hindu law, as it may be ascertained in the cited texts, and are therefore wrong. It appears to me that we cannot do this, without at the same time saying that they are wrong in the same particular with regard to males, nay further, that they are wrong in giving the widow the estate of inheritance at all."

We here see how he guardedly expressed himself and adopted the heterodox view held by the majority of the Court, without simply relying on the strict interpretation of the texts of Hindu Law.

In 1865, a year after his arrival in this country, when an English lawyer of average knowledge and capacity could hardly be expected to be familiar with the vocabulary and to have a clear idea of strange terminology and principles of our complicated Revenue System or the laws of our peculiar landed tenures, he had to sit in a Full Court of 15 Judges of the highest experience and legal acquirements to decide the famous Rent Case (*Thakooran Dass v. Bisheshur Mookerjee*, 3, W. R., Act X Rulings, p. 29) which called forth the epigrammatic verses of "Pips." He then said:

"The case has been argued before us at great length, as befits its undoubted importance, and we have had the advantage of all the reasoning and illustration which the very able advocates of each side have brought to our notice. The answers to the questions seem to hinge on the interpretation to be given to the words 'fair and equitable' as used in Section 5, Act X. of 1859. And, although the questions themselves are fairly specific, still they are, to say the least, but little comprehensive; and the way in which this case has come before us, and has been treated by both sides in the discussion, obliges us to go beyond their limits and to attempt to enunciate the meaning of the words in question in the form of a general rule. We are thus prevented from confining ourselves to our legitimate function, namely, that of saying what is the effect of those words merely on the particular issue placed before us. I need hardly remark that the constitution and procedure of a Court of Justice is very ill-adapted to carry even that which is often termed judicial legislation beyond the facts of the case material to the issue which is before the Court for decision. The Superior Courts of England have uniformly refused to countenance any attempt made to induce them to transgress this limit. It seems to me, however, that we are

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now asked, and in some sense compelled, to take a very large step into the region of pure legislation. It is foreign to our ways of proceedings and of deliberation to undertake the framing of a declaration of law which shall be prospective, and have application to eventual and unascertained conditions of fact; and I can scarcely hope that the effort to do this, which we are about to make, can end in a result which shall be satisfactory."

Then after dealing with the contentions on both sides and the provisions of the Act, he says:

"In the absence, then, of any legislative instruction on the point, I think we ought so to construe the words 'fair and equitable' as to disturb as little as possible the relation which obtained between the parties before, or independently of, the operation of the Act, so far as it can be ascertained. And this relation differs, as I conceive, with each separate case, so that it is impossible for us to lay down a single rule of assessment to be followed in all cases alike. On the one side, it has been contended for the zemindar that he has always possessed the right to exact a rack-rent from the rayeret, and that the Court ought not, in fairness and equity, to recognise any principle of assessment which would not strictly lead to such a rent. On the other side, it has been urged with equal force that the rayeret has been always entitled to some definite share of the produce of the land, and therefore the Court ought lay down an inflexible rule of proportion. I do not think that either of these courses would be fair and equitable to the parties: x x x."

I can as little agree to the general rule contended for by the rayeret, as I can to that of the zemindar, because I do not think that the former has at all established any definite claim in all cases to a proportionate part of the produce of the land.

A third alternative has had prominence given to it during the discussion of this case, which, as far I am able to give it expression, seems to me this, namely, that by some sort of natural equity, the tenant ought only to get so much of the profits of the land as is attributable to the application of his labour, skill and capital, and that the landlord as owner of the soil ought to get all the rest. I am convinced that a doctrine so vague as this finds no countenance in any writers on Political Economy, and a little reflection shows that it is practically inapplicable. It is physically impossible to separate the part of the produce which is due to the tenant's exertions from that which is the result of the intrinsic

qualities of the land; without land and without cultivation alike, there would be no agricultural produce at all, and it is simply absurd to attempt in any case to distinguish that which is due to the one cause from that which is due to the other. In fact, the sharing of the produce between landlord and tenant never has been, and never can be, based on any consideration of this kind; and there is nothing inherently inequitable in an arrangement, which may, in the estimation of those accustomed only to farming rents, give the tenant even an apparently extravagant portion of the produce."

Then, he remarks that in the absence of express agreement, the Court is to enquire whether according to local custom, the rayeret is entitled to any definite share of the produce or to any beneficial interest in it, and if so, the rent should be adjusted accordingly. It is obvious to him that these locally prevailing rates are always such as

"to give to the rayeret's holding a beneficial character; and, therefore, I think, the fair presumption will be, in the absence of evidence, or unless a different foundation be actually shown, that the rate was originally based upon the principle of sharing the produce of the land between the rayeret and zemindar in a fixed ratio. Many of my learned brothers are of opinion that this is not properly a presumption of fact, but is, in truth, a matter of legal right established by history. I confess that I feel great difficulty in seeking and ascertaining the law from such a source: and further I am reluctant, while acting judicially, to pledge myself to the acceptance of any particular version of a history which notoriously rests upon most imperfect material. Under these circumstances, although my conclusion on this point is, I believe, practically in unison with that of the majority of my colleagues, I regret that I cannot place it on the foundation which they have chosen, but am compelled so far to separate from them as to rest it solely on a presumption which I consider to be natural and justifiable, quite independently of any history whatever. The result of applying this presumption would be that the new fair and equitable rent would be the same proportionate part of the new produce that the old rent was of the old produce."

By proceeding in the manner I have attempted to sketch out, the Collector will, I believe, be enabled to determine what rent would be fair and equitable between the rayeret and his landlord within the meaning of the Act."

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1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer
and there is a breezy freshness and originality
about his correspondence which make it very
interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corfi
K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction,
Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing
official duties an English Civilian can find
either time or opportunity to pay so graceful
tribute to the memoir of a native personality
as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of
of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the
well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta;
Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many
who are more worthy of being thus honoured
than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr.
Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with
all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with
lessons for those who desire to know the real
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No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not
even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its pamper days
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A man of large heart and great qualities
his death from pneumonia in the early spring
of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss
to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable
idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his life and
letters upon record.—The "Times of India
(Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that
issues so freely from the press an apology is
needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee
the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an
explanation would have been looked for. A man
of his remarkable personality, who was easily
first among native Indian journalists, and in
many respects occupied a higher plane than
they did, and looked at public affairs from a
different point of view from theirs, could not
be suffered to sink into oblivion without some
attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual
expedient of a life. The difficulties common to
all biographers have in this case been increased
by special circumstances, not the least of
which is that the author belongs to a different
race from the subject. It is true that among
Englishmen there were many admirers of the
learned Doctor, and that he on his side under-
stood the English character as few foreigners
understand it. But in spite of this and his
remarkable assimilation of English modes of
thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee
remained to the last a Brahman of the Brah-
mans—a conservation of the best of his in-
heritance that was nothing but respect and
approval. In consequence of this, his ideal
biographer would have been one of his own
disciples, with the same inherited sympathies,
and trained like him in Western learning. If
Bengal had produced such another man as Dr.
Mookerjee, it was he who should have written
his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative
without being needlessly laudatory; it gives
on the whole a complete picture of the man
and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Moo-
kerjee are of such minor importance that they
might have been omitted with advantage, but
not a word of his own letters could have been
spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English
is to say what is short of the truth. His dic-
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after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming
as when he is laying down the laws of literary
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of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and
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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,214.

THE THREE FAREWELLS.

Letter from Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh to the Viceroy of India.

H. M. S. "Galatea," Colombo Roads, 7th April, 1870.

My dear Lord Mayo,—Now that my visit to India is a thing of the past, I should be sadly wanting in gratitude if I did not ask you to let me take this last opportunity, before my ship has left these waters, to thank Your Excellency and every one whose guest I have been, as well as all the people of the districts through which I have passed, for the unvarying hospitality and welcome I received in India. In answering the numerous addresses presented to me from time to time, I have expressed this feeling in all truth and sincerity, but I think that they, who have done so much for me, have almost a right to expect some less formal expression of thanks, than that which I have used in replying to official addresses. If you should then think proper to make this letter public, you are at perfect liberty to do so. When I returned to England two years ago, the Queen was pleased to grant a request that I had made long before, and to confer upon me an honour that I have coveted for years, that of being the first member of the Royal Family to visit India. During the fourteen months that elapsed between my departure from Plymouth and my arrival in India, I looked forward with eagerness to India as the great object of my cruise. The anticipations of Oriental magnificence, which were connected in my mind with the idea of India, were more than realized. The imposing reception which greeted my arrival in Calcutta, and that still more splendid ceremony when I received from the Queen, through your hands, the Insignia of the Star of India, far surpassed what I had expected, and formed together a grand and fitting commencement of that long series of displays that welcomed me to the great Cities of Benares, Agra, Delhi, Lahore, and Lucknow, which I had the pleasure of visiting. It was a disappointment to me when I heard from you that the Durbar, which was to have been held at Agra, could not take place; but I have since learned to appreciate your wise decision in that matter, and I am glad now that I have had better opportunities of making the acquaintance of the great Indian Princes and Chiefs, either in their own territories or in the immediate neighbourhood of them, than I could have had during the formalities of a State Durbar.

I heard it said that my visit to India occurred at an unfortunate time, owing to the financial difficulties under which the country was suffering, but which are now, I trust, in a fair way of being successfully surmounted. I do not take this view myself. Owing to your wise orders and advice the expense to the public was reduced as much as possible, and I hope that my visit has been but little burdensome to the country. Still this has not affected the large sums of money that were so munificently spent by individuals in welcoming me. The example set by Your Excellency at Calcutta was only too generally followed—of that example, I fear, you will not let me speak; but this I must say, that the personal kindness which you showed me and the splendid hospitality which you dispensed in my honor, were features in my visit which I can never forget.

To each and all of those who, after I left your roof, received me as their guest, I wish to return my warmest thanks. To the

Indian Princes who entertained me with characteristic magnificence, I am no less grateful. I cannot forget the pleasant days I passed at Chukia, at Deeg, and at Ulwar, nor the Princes who vied with each other in doing all they could to render my visit interesting and agreeable; nor can I forget the munificent hospitality shown me in the Nepal territories. To the British and Native gentlemen who gave so many entertainments in my honor, I return my grateful acknowledgments. I am convinced that they were all animated with the same wish, to do honor to their Sovereign's son, and to testify in some substantial form the loyal affection with which they regard the Queen's family. Nor could I help being touched by the eagerness which the great mass of the people displayed to see me and to welcome me. Every class and sect alike manifested their loyalty for Her Majesty by the reception they gave her son, and that reception, and the sentiments which prompted it, will more and more tend to strengthen the interest and affection with which the Queen regards her Indian subjects.

The hurried character of my tour through the interior prevented me from obtaining more than a bird's eye view of the principal parts of the country; but I have seen enough to awaken in myself a strong interest both in its past history and its present condition. I have seen many evidences of the anxiety which exists, not only among the British community, but among the more wealthy and influential of the native-born inhabitants, to raise and improve the moral and social condition of the poorer classes. The importance of the spread of education is gradually being understood, and in several instances I was highly gratified by the manner in which the communities of some cities desired to commemorate my visit—by the foundation of scholarships bearing my name, by the commencement of recreation grounds for the use of the people, by endowing high schools, and at some of the seaports by contributing funds for the erection or improvement of Sailors' Homes. These laudable objects have been very materially, in some cases mainly, assisted by the munificence as well of private individuals as of some of the Indian Princes, whose generosity is so well known to every one that it would be superfluous for me to mention their names here. That my visit has been instrumental in bringing about results such as these, is one of the happiest reflections with which I shall look back to my brief stay in India.

Some impression of the vast extent of our possession in India, I formed from the great distances that I traversed by railway. I am only doing justice to the excellent arrangements which were made by the Railway Authorities, when I say that I have never travelled in greater comfort, and I owe it to the gentlemen who were entrusted with the arrangements of my transit from place to place, that I was enabled to fulfil with strict punctuality, as well as with ease and convenience, the appointments I had made. Perhaps I was a little disappointed with the scenery of the great plains of Bengal and the North-West Provinces, but any disappointment I felt on this point was more than compensated by the pleasure with which I viewed the grand scenery of the hills and snowy ranges from Dehra Munroorie. Some part of my short stay I was enabled to devote to field sports, and I hope I may be excused for saying that I enjoyed with all my heart the few days I could spare for this relaxation. Considering that I was quite a month too early, I think I was very fortunate to have obtained the good sport I did. I am very much beholden to the gentlemen who made the arrangements for my sporting excursions, and who enabled me to live in camp with all the comfort and even luxury I could possibly have desired. It has been my good fortune to make the acquaintances of many officers, whose gallant deeds and

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chivalrous sense of duty entitled them to a place in the roll of Indian heroes, and of whose friendship I am proud. The story of their lives is not the least instructive among the lessons that have been brought to my notice in India. In these remarks I allude to members of the Civil as well as the Military branch of the service. Of both these I would say in the words that Your Excellency lately used on a public occasion---that nowhere is a Sovereign served better, or with more zeal than is the Queen by her servants in India.

I was very much gratified with my visit to Bombay, a city, which from its great maritime importance, pre-eminently claims my attention as a sailor. My arrival there was happily timed at a period in her history which is unprecedented, for it happened almost contemporaneously with three great events, each of which has a direct bearing upon her future greatness. I allude to the completion of the Railway communication between Eastern and Western India,---the opening of the Suez Canal,---and the laying of the Sub-marine Telegraph between Suez and Bombay. I trust that the bright hopes for the future which this happy concurrence of events is calculated to inspire will be amply realized; and I also hope that my kind friends in Bombay will remember, that simultaneously with the dawn of their good fortune, the son of their Sovereign came among them, to assure them of the lively sympathy with which Her Majesty regards them, and of the pleasure with which she will learn of their hopeful prospects. Madras, although heavily weighted in the race with her sister capitals by local disadvantages, welcomed me so warmly, entertained me with so much consideration, and sped me on my way with such kind wishes, that I am glad it was chosen as the port for my re-embarkation. My reception there was a most gratifying and flattering culmination to a very interesting tour. The three months of my stay in India have passed only too rapidly and pleasantly away. I am laden with a debt of gratitude---a debt which I am proud to owe, but which I can never hope to repay. In all that concerns the welfare of India I shall ever take deep interest, for I have learned to regard her people with affection. I am the glad hearer of a message from them to my mother, which will give her unbounded satisfaction, for I have to tell her how enthusiastic has been my reception, how universal the affectionate loyalty which greeted me, and how it is for her sake alone that I have been thus welcomed to India,---that my advent has been thus eagerly seized as an opportunity for expressing their sentiments of personal devotion to Her Majesty, and of their heartfelt appreciation of the mildness and beneficence of her rule.

I must now bid to the people of India an affectionate farewell. May God pour down his choicest blessing on the land.

Believe me, my dear Lord Mayo,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) ALFRED.

Letter from Prince Albert Edward, the Prince of Wales.

H.M.'s Ship "Serapis," Bombay, March 13, 1876.

My dear Lord Northbrook,

I cannot leave India without expressing to you, as the Queen's Representative of this vast Empire, the sincere pleasure and the deep interest with which I have visited this great and wonderful country. As you are aware, it has been my hope and intention for some years past to see India, with a view to become more intimately acquainted with the Queen's subjects in this distant part of her Empire, and to examine for myself those objects of interest which have always had so great an attraction for travellers. I may candidly say that my expectations have been more than realized by what I have witnessed, so that I return to my native country most deeply impressed with all I have seen and heard. The information I have gained will, I am confident, be of the greatest value to me, and will form a useful foundation for much that I hope hereafter to acquire. The reception I have met with from the Princes and Chiefs, and from the Native population at large, is most gratifying to me, as the evidence of loyalty thus manifested shows an attachment to the Queen and to the Throne, which, I trust, will be made every year more lasting. It is my earnest hope that the many millions of the Queen's Indian subjects may daily become more convinced of the advantages of British rule, and that they may realise more fully that the Sovereign and the Government of England have the interests and well-being of India very sincerely at heart. I have had frequent opportunities of seeing Native troops of all branches of the Service, and I cannot withhold my opinion that they constitute an army of which we may feel justly proud. The "march-past" at Delhi of so many distinguished officers and of such highly disciplined troops was a most impressive sight, and one which I shall not easily forget. I wish also to state my

high appreciation of the Civil Service, and I feel assured that the manner in which their arduous duties are performed tends greatly to the prosperity and the contentment of all classes of the community. I cannot conclude without thanking you, and all those in authority, for the facilities which have enabled me to traverse so rapidly so large an extent of country, and rest assured I shall ever retain a grateful memory of the hospitality tendered by yourself and by others who have so kindly received me.

Believe me, my dear Lord Northbrook,

Yours very sincerely,

ALBERT EDWARD.

Letter from Prince George, the Prince of Wales to His Excellency the Viceroy, dated 19th March 1906.

It is with much regret that the Princess of Wales and I leave India to-day. From time to time in my speeches or in letters to various local authorities I have endeavoured to express our sincere gratitude for all the labour and affectionate good-will which have been so freely bestowed upon us by all classes. I hope that these expressions of appreciation, made while the events were fresh, will have assured our most kind hosts in various parts of India that their reception and welcome had given us intense pleasure and satisfaction. But now that we are leaving the shores of this great Empire, I wish to assure you that the arrangements made by the various Departments, both of the Government and of the local authorities, have been in every way admirably planned and successfully carried out. In the first place, I desire to express my gratitude for all the pains devoted to what has proved to be an excellent and successful programme for our stay in India.

I was especially delighted to have had an opportunity of visiting several of the great Indian Princes, and of becoming personally acquainted with the other Ruling Chiefs whose capitals we were unable to visit. I have thus gained some insight into the administration of their respective States. I am deeply grateful for their generous hospitality and their marked courtesy to us. But I was still more impressed by their sincere expressions of loyalty to the Throne and of personal affection to the King-Emperor.

We know, of course, how greatly our visit has added to the labours and anxieties of the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and Local Administrators, and we are all the more grateful for the cordial welcome which we received at every Government House. But greatly as we appreciated the good-will and most effective efforts of the authorities to make our visit to each place pleasant and instructive, the feature which most profoundly impressed us was the spontaneous and affectionate enthusiasm of the thousands and hundreds of thousands who have welcomed us and made us feel at home in our progress through India.

As regards the Departments on which so much extra work has been involved, we are grateful to the various sanitary authorities for the arrangements which have enabled our large party to travel from one end of India to the other without sickness, though unhappily our route has passed through infected centres.

I cannot speak too highly of the Railway authorities on whom so much of our comfort has depended. All lines have vied with one another, and have succeeded in making our journey smooth and restful; and all have been absolutely punctual. It might interest you to know that we have travelled over 8,800 miles by train alone.

I have been struck with the working of the Police and with the manner in which the huge crowds, which have everywhere gathered to welcome us, have been handled. It is a great satisfaction to the Princess and myself to know that on such occasions there has been practically no loss of life, nor serious accidents, and we are especially happy to have noticed absence of violence or rough usage.

I also had the opportunity of inspecting a Famine Camp, in which I was deeply interested. Everything that I saw convinced me of the earnest endeavours made to save life and to mitigate the sufferings of those who were compelled to seek refuge in the camp.

I am glad that I was able to be present with my friend, Lord Kitchener, at the manoeuvres of the largest army which has ever been assembled during peace time in India; and that at the Reviews at Rawalpindi and Secunderabad, and at Parades elsewhere, I have seen almost every unit of the army in this country.

It was a pleasure to see the fine physique, good training, and general military fitness of the British and Indian troops. I had always heard of the grand traditions of the Indian Army, and I have had ample proof that the same old spirit inspires all ranks to-day.

I am proud to feel that the King has honoured me by making me Colonel-in-Chief of nine regiments of the Indian Army, as I have thus become personally and directly associated with the different classes of which that army is composed.

At Lahore, and in those Native States which we visited, I had opportunities of seeing the Imperial Service Troops, and I was struck with their workman-like appearance and quickness on Parade. I am sure that you will appreciate the action of those Princes who have consented to reduce the number of their local troops in order to contribute to the defences of the country a military force of greater efficiency and more adequately equipped.

I have no doubt that, as time goes on and their circumstances permit, other Indian Princes will adopt a similar policy.

I noticed everywhere the keen spirit which seemed to animate the whole army, and a general striving towards efficiency and readiness to take the field. The important development of the Transport Service will, I am assured, largely contribute to this end.

We are both genuinely sorry that our visit to India has now come to an end. We shall never forget the affectionate greetings of India and Burma. Everywhere we found the same loving regard for the late Queen Empress, the same loyal devotion to my dear father, and the same kind and enthusiastic welcome to ourselves. So long as we live we shall remember India with feelings of warm gratitude and sympathy. I hope that this visit, which has involved so much labour and anxiety on your Government, will, under God's providence, be fraught with benefit to India.

We wish you, and all who are in authority under you, God-speed in your great work. We wish for the Indian people immunity from famine and pestilence, steady progress in agriculture and industries, and a safe and natural advance in social conditions.

It is a great pleasure and satisfaction to the Princess and myself to have, within five years, stayed with you and Lady Minto while you held the high positions of representing your Sovereign in Canada and in India. I heartily wish that every success may attend you in your arduous and responsible duties.

Telegram from His Excellency the Viceroy to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, dated 24th March 1906.

The Viceroy and Government and the Princess and people of India deeply appreciate the gracious message which Your Royal Highness has conveyed in Your Royal Highness' letter of the 19th March. His Excellency begs respectfully to express the strong feelings of gratitude and devotion which the visit of Your Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales has evoked among all classes and sections of this great Empire, and his warm personal appreciation of Your Royal Highness' kind expressions towards Lady Minto and himself.

Telegram from his Royal Highness to the Viceroy dated 24th March 1906.

On leaving last place in Indian territory, we must again thank you and the people of India for all the kindness we have received and which will never fade from our memories.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

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Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

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Assistant Secretary.

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and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their *Vikshya* on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, March 31, 1906.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

IN the sudden upheaval of our energies in all directions, many schemes in aid of the Swadeshi movement have been placed before the public. It may be said that the education proposed comprehends technical study. The admitted fact is the comprehensiveness of all kinds of education, and the immense amount of money required. No technological college can be established without vast sums of money. The Polytechnics of Germany, Switzerland and France have been established at great national sacrifice. Switzerland is the father of Technological Institutes, though Germany is now ahead of it. America is following Germany. England is awaking from its lethargy, being rudely shaken by Germany and America in the commercial enterprise. The London Imperial College of Technology is about to be established. In 1901, Lord Rosebery devised the scheme of a Technological High School in London on the model of the Technical Schools at Berlin, Aix, Dantzic, Breslau, Charlottenburg, etc. At that time Mr. R. B. Haldane, Sir James Dewar, Sir William Ramsay and Sir Norman Lockyer were occupied with the enquiry into the commercial decline of England. After the Royal Commission had made its report, there was no stir even among the British manufacturers who were affected by the advance of Germany and other rivals of England. The smouldering zeal remained with a few scientific workers. At last Sir Julius Wernher, Mr. Beit and Sir Ernest Cassel came forward with their heavy purse. It is expected that the great college will soon be founded.

It should not be supposed that England has no technical institutes. There are numerous polytechnics for training young students, but no high technical institute. The higher one is meant for the instruction of skilled students and the final training of workmen to fit them for higher branches of manufacture or industry.

It may be said that the beginning of all technical education is the performance of obligations in any workshop specified for a few branches of any industry. The workshops are generally established by syndicates for profit. Students are admitted into them in consideration of fees. Those branches of industry are taken up which are most urgent for the country, so that productions may be sold in the market without difficulty. The individual primitive organisation is an impetus to future expansion. The daily necessities are first taken up. Smithery and textile fabrics are the most important of them all. Hardware, Artware and Pottery come next in the series. It may be supposed that some kind of rudimentary work must have taken place in the community with regard to the two series whatever its position may be. The only danger is the annihilation on account of cheap foreign goods. Power-machine has doubled the difficulty. For, cheapness depends on the production of materials on an extensive scale as well as on the use of power-machine.

If competition can be successfully carried on by the workshops, the second stage in the development, necessarily, is the adoption of technical institutes on no high scale. The basis of all organisation

is money. It can be assumed that the first beginning of any industry with a small capital must be the workshops, so as to accumulate wealth for future expansion. Taking into account the rudimentary beginnings of all industries, the first step towards our industrial progress should be the formation of workshops for particular objects, and foundation of a college for scientific industry, for which a vast sum is required. It is said that a certain wealthy gentleman is willing to spend about two or three lakhs of rupees for establishing a technical institute. His advisers are mostly scions of wealthy families, of whom two are M. D's and one B. Sc. Much is their claim in understanding technical education. They are for naming their gigantic conception the College of Scientific Industry. For the Primary Department, the education will be (1) Drawing and Design; (2) Practical Geometry; (3) Arithmetic up to linear and square measurements; (4) Explanation of foreign scientific terms, characters and figures; (5) use of improved tools. The instruction will be conducted in a vernacular language of India. The students will be taught at least for one year. Their special training will embrace twenty-six kinds of different industries.

The secondary Department is expected to turn out best trained foremen, so that they may be able to take entire charge of small factories. Here, the course of instruction will be for three years. The training will be for anything and everything comprehending at least three dozen industries. The general studies will include Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Drawing, Design, German and French, besides English language, and Mechanical Engineering.

Then there is a Commercial Branch, comprising Commercial Geography, Economic History of India, Political Science, Trade Statistics, Banking and Finance, Organisation of Industries, Business Law, International Law, History of European Civilisation and Art, and Modern Languages. The course will be for two years.

To this programme, a fourth department has been added. It is the College Department.

The College Department will have Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Technology, Manufacturing Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Mining Engineering and Metallurgy, Electrical Engineering, Textile Industry, Agriculture, Fermentation Industry. The general education will be in Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Biology, Geology, and Mathematics. The study of German, French and Japanese languages may be added.

Mr. Haldane in his Education and Empire has said of technical education: "In England elementary education is compulsory, and is provided and organised under the supervision of the State, largely by local authorities. Secondary and technical education is not compulsory. The State in a limited measure, assists but does not control it. Education of a University type is not organised by the State at all. In Germany it is quite otherwise. Not only are elementary, secondary and technical and University education, all three of them, controlled and organised and brought into close relation to each other by the State, but they are in a large measure made compulsory....Secondary education is not directly compulsory, but indirectly it is made difficult to dispense with....The secondary schools are of two kinds—classical and modern. The classical schools are

known as Gymnasien. The modern schools are divided into those where Latin is taught, the Real-gymnasien, and those where Latin is not taught, the Real schulen. The gymnasien as a rule prepare for the University, and the Real schulen for the High Technical Schools."

From these observations we can conclude that at first our education should begin on the basis of that difference. Our real gymnasien must be the seat of English and Sanskrit education with the necessary touch of other branches of knowledge. The gymnasien must be the college of the matriculated. The study of vernacular languages can not help us at present. Both men and books are wanting for vernacular education of a high standard. However we may pretend to our advance in the vernaculars, the fact is certain that they may only serve as the mediums of elementary education as the second language, the first being reserved for English.

It may be said that Japan has improved its language. Notwithstanding that cultivation, English and German are the mediums through which the education of Japan is chiefly effected. We are far behind Japan in our cultivation of languages. At any rate, it is clear that our present critical situation can only be obviated by the adoption of the English language. At the Real schools of England, pupils remain for about six years and study German, English, French, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and certain other sciences.

The Technical High School in Berlin is furnished with laboratories which overshadow the Cavendish Laboratories at Cambridge, and even the modern Universities at Liverpool, Sheffield, Manchester and Birmingham. Mr. Haldane further says:

"Near at hand (to Berlin) is that Technische Hochschule (Charlottenburg), the reputation of which is world-wide. Here there are six departments manned by professors of University rank. Architecture, civil engineering, marine engineering, mechanical engineering, chemistry and general technical science are, mainly at the cost of the State, taught on a scale which has no parallel in this country. So great has been the public appreciation of this institution that the magnificent buildings which were erected in 1884 are already quite inadequate to the needs of the five or six thousand students who attend the lectures and work in the laboratories."

Besides these two Universities of Berlin and Charlottenburg, there are ten alternative technical institutes, as at Aix, Dantzic, Breslau, etc. Then there are twenty-two ordinary universities. England cannot imitate Germany for many reasons. Our effort to establish even a technical school of minor degree is impossible for want of money, men and books. The legitimate beginning for us should be the workshops for particular branches of industry which are most required for the present. We cannot afford to establish schools for technical instruction. Workshops can save us from many difficulties. Technical schools will be a source of waste at present, though in the future they may prove remunerative. The workshops will bring money from the beginning, and they may expand into technical schools.

We have a warning in the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute at Bombay. It has been existing for eighteen years. The vital consideration is whether the institution has succeed-

ed-in supplying the wants of the Bombay presidency. After this period the institution has been able to admit only 329 students. The institution has an examination of its own, which may be said to be equal to matriculation. At the last examination, 115 matriculated students and 141 un-matriculated appeared. Out of these 37 matriculated and 90 un-matriculated students were elected. The proposed College of Scientific Industry does not intend to hold any kind of examination. The candidates for the Primary Department are required to read and write any one of the vernacular languages of India. The serious objection against their admission is that they will be wanting in the rudimentary knowledge of the English language, without which their future prospects cannot be assured. Their training without that acquisition will be like the present toilers who are sufficiently able to perform their particular work in which they have been brought up. As far as we are aware, the passed students of the institute at Bombay cannot command the market. The paucity of Bombay students in the institute is a remarkable fact. Lord Lamington in his address said: "While I am distributing the certificates this evening, Mr. Dunn very kindly told me, as each student came up, from what part of the country he came and I was astonished to hear the number of those who came from parts of India outside this Presidency, from varied directions, from North, South and East. This is a very convincing proof, to my mind, that this Institution has won for itself the fame throughout India. In fact, I did know where the Bombay students came in at all. At one time, Mr. Dunn mentioned Lahore, at another Mysore, and so forth. There are indeed very few names of Bombay students." So the institution is not prized in Bombay. The outsiders who perhaps fail in other studies come for the technical education at Bombay. If this be the fate of one institution, the other may follow it.

The inadequacy of the sum offered for the so-called technical education is no encouragement for substantial work. The best that these institutions can do is to multiply students who care little for their future. The proper course is to establish workshops, as Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandi has done for pottery works.

ROTATION OF BASTIS.

A DESTRUCTIVE METHOD.

By an Onlooker.

ROTATION of crops is an expression too well known to require definition. Rotation of Bastis is an allied operation in which it is proposed, for the first time in the history of sanitation, that low class cheap sheds in crowded cities should be periodically demolished and the soil burnt or calcined, to destroy all human excretions and the effluvia which generates in them. The ignorant castes and tribes of India are so indifferent to the cleanliness of their huts that, although they bathe every day, their spittings, expectorations and more offensive excreta accumulate in and about their lodgings to a dangerous extent. Even the so called educated portion spoil the staircases, corners, cornices outside the windows and spaces behind the doors so much as to turn splendid public buildings into hot houses for the propagation of the species known as bacilli. One has only to pass through side staircases used by clerks to be struck by the sight. As is done in England, the railings and steps are never washed and the parapets of the verandahs are never swept. Take a moistened rag, pass it along the railing and let the crop so gathered be ex-

amined under a microscope. Then pass through the corner flights of stairs adjoining the rooms assigned to the clerks and you come upon an equally dirty place. If this be the use to which majestic public buildings are put, what must the state of the poor man's huts? Children are allowed to use the floor as latrines, the excreta are removed with a little straw, rag, or paper, and the place plastered over or smeared with cow-dung—as if to supply manure to the seeds or spores—the progenitors of the bacilli. One thousand and one are the ways in which this process of impregnation of bastis with disease germs is practised by the ignorant who occupy these sheds much like the cattle of the country. If, therefore, a system of rotation of bastis be introduced, our crowded cities will greatly profit by the change. A law should be made making it compulsory to vacate each group or centre of bastis. The huts should be pulled down and the material burnt on the spot. For one full year no cottage should be allowed to be erected on the site. This method of giving rest to the soil or leaving it fallow, as it is called in agriculture, will destroy all germs and render the spot healthy. But then there is the question of expense. The municipality should partly bear the cost of reconstruction, by supplying building materials. Another method is to acquire a number of sites under the improvement trust and to declare them as 'reserved areas' for the cottages. Each tenant should then be allowed to build temporary huts on condition that they be destroyed every tenth year and the land left open to the sky for twelve months. Those only who accept these terms may be allowed to occupy the land, at a rent to be fixed by public auction. People will then appreciate the value of sanitation of surroundings as distinguished from personal ablutions. An incalculably large number of disease germs will be destroyed every year, and during the decade allotted for each basti-land, people who will actually occupy it as tenants will live a healthier life. There will be no hardship, as the basti-land will belong to the Municipality or rather the Trust, and the conditions imposed will be accepted by those desirous of building temporary huts. Let each ward have such spots reserved, and "Rotation of bastis" will decidedly improve the sanitation of the city. The history of Basora and other ancient cities teaches us that older the city, the more the danger of destruction by plague, that is, the longer the soil is allowed to absorb human and other animal excreta, the greater the danger to life. Therefore, if the soil, where possible be burnt and left unoccupied for a full year, portions of the city will, like the Phoenix of mythology, come to new life, vigour and health. Is this a Utopian scheme? Echo says no. Nothing is impossible. Rotation of bastis will be a blessing to overcrowded cities.

ON Wednesday the 28th March, Lord Minto closed his Calcutta Legislative Session by his Budget address which we publish in another column. That was also the last day of his Calcutta season. Next day, on Thursday, he left Calcutta. On his way to Simla, he will visit Lucknow, Agra, Ajmer, Delhi, Mitha Lak, Sargodha, Mona, Nowshera, Malakand and Peshawar. The departure from Calcutta was private, but the arrival at Simla on Thursday, the 19th April, at about 4 P. M. will be public.

This viceregal programme dated the 27th March was issued by Major G. Feilding, Officiating Military Secretary to the Viceroy, on the 27th March as a Gazette of India Extraordinary, and is published in the ordinary Gazette of India of this day, the 31st March.

In the ordinary issue of the Calcutta Gazette of Wednesday the 28th March, the same notification of the Viceroy's Military Secretary's Office is republished as "Reprinted from the 'Gazette of India' of 24th March 1906." There seems to be no editor of the Calcutta Gazette. It is "printed at the Printing Office, and published by the Book Depot, of the Bengal Secretariat, Writers' Buildings, in the City of Calcutta," and the current issue is certified to have been so printed and published on the 28th March 1906. The printer or publisher of the Gazette or the printer and publisher is capable of any feat. Once we had so point out that the certificate date of publication was earlier than the actual date of publication. Now we find

that a republication in it can be earlier than a publication taken from a later Gazette of another Government. The present is another instance of the foresight of, shall we say? the Superintendent of the Printing Office of the old Bengal Secretariat.

TO-DAY'S Gazette of India has the following announcements :

"The 30th March 1906. No. 471.—The Hon'ble Sir Francis William Maclean, Kt., K.C.I.E., Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, is granted furlough with effect from the 11th May 1906, or from the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it, to the 4th August 1906.

No. 473.—Under the provisions of the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vict. Cap. 104), section 7, the Governor General in Council has been pleased to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose, one of the Judges of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, to perform the duties of the Chief Justice of the said Court, during the absence on furlough of the Hon'ble Sir Francis William Maclean, Kt., K.C.I.E., or until further orders."

Mr. Justice Ghose is the senior puisne Judge of the Calcutta High Court, and the officiating appointment of Chief Justice comes to him as a matter of course, that is, following precedents. In announcing this Gazette appointment, the "Englishman" names the Judge as Chunder Madhub Ghose and another contemporary, as Madhub Chunder Ghose. But what's in a name?

WE also read in to-day's Gazette of India :

"The 26th March 1906. No. 454.—Mr. S. P. Sinha, Barrister-at-Law, Standing Counsel for the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, is appointed to officiate as Advocate General for Bengal, during the absence on leave of the Hon'ble Mr. P. O'Kinealy."

Mr. Sinha's lift to the leadership of the Calcutta Bar is deservedly popular. He is one of the ablest of advocates in Calcutta, combining in himself all the qualities which make for success. A sound lawyer, and an incisive cross-examiner, he has the gift of lucid expression, pleasant manners and a persuasive tongue. A comparatively young man, he has a very extensive practice and one of the largest incomes at the Calcutta Bar. He has reached that enviable position when solicitor and litigant are anxious to secure his services at any fee. For sometime, Mr. Sinha has been seen more often on the Appellate side of the High Court than the Original. This is in conformity with the traditions of the Calcutta Bar, where the leaders at the top of the profession gradually drift from the heat and strife of witness actions to the calmer atmosphere of courts of appeal. Respected by the Bench and eagerly sought after by solicitors and litigants, Mr. Sinha also enjoys the confidence of the Government. He has for some years been the Standing Counsel, and his high abilities are now further rewarded by the appointment to the highest office at the Bar.

Mr. Sinha's career at the Bar is interesting and instructive. He was a brilliant student of the Calcutta University, but before he took his degree, he went to England and there distinguished himself in the Bar examinations at Lincoln's Inn. He was very young when he joined the Calcutta Bar. He belongs to an old and well-known family in the District of Birbhum, but was a stranger in Calcutta, and he started his career without friend or influence. Left to his own unaided efforts, he was not successful at the beginning and the circumstances in which he found himself were discouraging and the prospects gloomy. In fact, at one time he seriously thought of leaving Calcutta and trying his luck elsewhere. His friends, however, prevailed upon him to wait a little longer as they were confident of his ultimate success. He waited with patience and the event justified the step. It is no exaggeration to say that he has risen to his present high position by sheer merit. His case is not unique in the history of lawyers. The following extract from Manson's "Builders of our Law" will furnish a parallel:—

"It is amusing, in the light of subsequent events, to hear that during one Liverpool assize he (Herschell) and two other brother barristers partook together of a very indifferent dinner in their lodgings, compared notes as to the apparent hopelessness of their prospects and planned emigration—one to the Straits Settlements and another to India. Hear it, ye faint-hearted and desponding novices of the Bar! One of the three was Herschell (afterwards twice Lord Chancellor), another was Lord Russell of Killowen (Lord Chief Justice of England), and the third (Mr. Gully) is the present Speaker of the House of Commons."

Mr. Sinha is one of those men who do not believe in dabbling in matters without proper study. Hence is it that he is not to be found in the ranks of amateur politicians or fashionable patriots. Law is a hard task-master and leaves little time for other things. Mr. Sinha's abilities have almost entirely been confined to his professional work. He has recently been appointed a Fellow of the Calcutta University by the Government, and the Senate House is the only other public place where his voice may be heard except the courts of law.

ANOTHER appointment, Educational though not Judicial, in which a Judge of the High Court is concerned is :

"The 30th March 1906. No. 183.—The Governor General in Council has been pleased to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Asutosh Mukharji, M.A., D. L., F. R. A. S., F. R. S. E., to be Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta, in succession to Sir Alexander Pedler, Kt., C. I. E., resigned."

There is no greater authority in the Calcutta University than Mr. Justice Mukhopadhyaya. He is a power there. He has always for a long time kept himself thoroughly acquainted with its ways and proceedings, and was of great help to Government in its Reform of the Universities, that is, to the Universities Commission as regards the Calcutta University.

MR. JUSTICE Chunder Madhub Ghose is the second Indian officiating Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court. Mr. Justice Mukherji is the second Indian Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Mr. Sinha is the first Indian officiating Advocate General for Bengal.

A YOUNG friend, more literary than political, remarks that it is all Swadeshi in the Bengal High Court. The Chief Justice is an Indian, so is the Advocate General. So is the Legal Remembrancer. The next Standing Counsel will, it is said, be an Indian, as also the Clerk of the Crown. Lord Minto, in his Budget address, said that so long as 'Swadeshi' was limited to the open market, it had his support. The recent appointments made show that Lord Minto is willing to advance native aspirations by making his choice in the open markets.

A GAZETTE of India Extraordinary, dated Calcutta, Wednesday, March 28, 1906, makes the following announcement.

"Order of Indian Empire. Foreign Department. Notification. Fort William, the 28th March 1906. His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire is pleased to announce that His Majesty the King, Emperor of India, has been graciously pleased to make the following appointment to the said Order:—

To be a Knight Grand Commander. His Excellency the Honourable Sir Arthur Lawley, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Madras.—By Order of the Grand Master, L. W. Dane, Secretary to the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire."

The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Lawley arrived at Madras the same morning, and immediately at the Council Chamber received charge of his office, taking his seat under a salute and signing letters and despatches announcing his taking over charge.

He next drove to Government House, where, at 11-30 A. M., he received, and replied to, an address from the Madras Corporation. The presentation of the address as he said,

"is an unusual compliment. I believe this is the first occasion upon which the Municipality of Madras has ever presented an address to an incoming Governor. I desire to thank you for the unique honour which has been conferred on me."

IN reply to the questions, at the Viceroy's Legislative Council on the 21st and 28th March, of Mr. Gokhale, Sir Arundel Arundel said that the Sylhet "Weekly Chronicle" "published a statement that a Gurkha policeman had committed an indecent assault on a sweeper woman at Barisal. On enquiry being made the statement was proved to be false by the deposition of the woman herself supported by that of her husband, and it was further shown that she refused to sign a charge of attempted rape addressed to the Chairman of the Municipality which was drafted for her signature... The Local Government considered that no useful purpose would be served by instituting criminal proceedings and therefore decided to withdraw from the newspaper certain facilities."

To the part of the question, "In view of the fact that important questions of principle affecting the status, dignity and independence of the Press in India are involved in such executive action against newspapers, will the Government of India be pleased to state their position generally, on the subject, so as to allay all reasonable anxiety?"

Sir Arundel's answer was:

"The Government of India are unable to admit that the status, dignity and independence of the Press in India are in any way affected by the adoption of executive action in cases of specific misconduct as distinguished from adverse criticism of Government measures."

Sir Arundel would not explain what was meant by 'Government support,' which, as a punishment, has been withdrawn from the Sylhet "Chronicle" by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. He treated the particular case on its own merits, leaving the general question unanswered. The Government of India would not bind themselves in any way. They would treat a question in regard to a newspaper as it arises in the way it pleases them without laying down any fixed principle of action.

WHAT does the following notification dated the 28th March 1906, in the Public Works Department of the Government of India, mean?

"No. 47.—The Government of India have no further need of the services of Mr. Narain Das, Assistant Engineer, 3rd grade, Rajputana and Central India."

Was his appointment a temporary one, or does he go out on reduction, or is he courteously sent out of the service?

WE learnt last Monday that the votes of the majority of the members of the Bengal Social Science Association are against the proposal of Sir Alexander Pedler to hand over the balance of the funds of the Association to Government for the purpose of founding one or more scholarships to encourage the study of Political Economy. The proposal will therefore be abandoned.

THERE was a special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, on Friday, the 30th March, called by the Chairman upon a requisition of eight Commissioners, at which was passed the following Resolution:

"That the Commissioners in meeting desire to place on record their appreciation of the earnestness, zeal, courage, devotion and disinterestedness with which Mr. J. G. Apar has served the Corporation for more than 20 years, and of the valuable services rendered by him to the rate-payers during that period and their sense of loss at his severance from the Municipal Administration of this city."

Mr. Apar was also presented with a clock. This was an extraordinary proceeding. We are not aware of any other Municipal Commissioner being so honoured. It is altogether a novel one in the history of the Municipality—at any rate a meeting called upon requisition to pass a resolution of the kind. The inscription on the clock is:

"Presented to J. G. Apar, Esq. at a special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on the 30th March 1906 on his retirement in appreciation of his services."

The cost of the clock is no charge on the Municipal Fund, it being, we believe, paid from subscriptions collected from the Municipal Commissioners. The matter was not wholly municipal, though made to bear such stamp. It is doubtful whether a meeting under the law can be called on requisition for presentation of a souvenir not a charge on the Municipal fund. The object of the meeting was not the transaction of any business contemplated by the Municipal Act. It was properly a meeting of gentlemen who are Municipal Commissioners and who subscribed among themselves to make a presentation to one of themselves. That no doubt shows their good feeling, but why was there the show of presentation from the municipality or the rate-payers of Calcutta?

We must not be supposed to object to the recognition of Mr. Apar's services. We only point out the true character of the meeting. If the chairman had refused to call the meeting, could he be taken to task by any of the requisitioning Commissioners?

The mover of the Resolution was one of the 28 who had resigned by way of protest to the Act under which the meeting was requisitioned.

IN ANY GARDEN.

Down his long garden he did slowly go,

For fairer sight did each new path disclose

Now bent he where the purple asters glow,

Now stayed his feet beside a changing rose.

Like some pale leaf blown by an upward wind,

A butterfly danced in a sunbeam caught,

Then lit upon a lily-bell to find

The honey by some laggard bee forgot.

Upon a mossy step the old dial stood

That told the sunny hours; he climbed so see,

"Pass slow, sweet shade," he said; "the world is good,
Yet bless you for the hours that are to be."

He raised his head: the wind blew back his hair,

He heard the clanging of a distant spade,

And saw an old man in the garden fair,

Who all amongst the flowers a havoc made.

Deep, wide, and dark the digger made his bed,—

A fearful hollow in the pleasant place.

"Why dig you here?" the youth unto him said;

"Within this grave what flower would you e'er face?"

And as he called, the digger paused awhile,

And looked upon him with strange eyes, nor spoke.

So that the youth ran forward from the dial,

And with his call the echoing garden woke.

From flower to flower the echo caught the cry,

The holly hock let drop its crimson bell.

"For me! Ah, not for me! I shall not die,"—

The pale rose shook till all her petals fell.

But when the youth reached that green canopy

Where he had watched the digger, there was none,

Nor any grave. There only could he see

The shadow of the yew tree in the sun.

"'Twas but the shade and shaking of your leaf,"

He smiled—then shuddered as he turned away.

It shook in silent merriment—or grief,

With tears or laughter—which, no man can say.

Dora Shorter.

—The "Spectator," Feb. 3, 1906.

IMPORTANT WARNING—When asking for WILKINSON'S SARAPARILLA see that no deceiving and disappointing imitation is offered. All respectable Chemists and dealers in Medicine supply WILKINSON'S Saraparilla which has a worldwide reputation of over 70 years "as a superior preparation always reliable." Notice the name and trade mark on all packets to imitate which is a felony.

OUR POOR RELATIONS.

Under the title "The Universal Kinship," Mr. Howard Moore, Instructor in Zoology at Chicago, has published a valuable and extremely suggestive book with the Humanitarian League. Taking as a motto for the title-page :

"A sacred kinship I would not forego
Binds me to all that breathes,"

the author devotes one section of his work to "The Physical Kinship." He insists that "man is not a god, nor in any imminent danger of becoming one; he is a mammal of the order of primates, and has come up from the worm and the quadruped." With that we are not here concerned. The second part of the volume is devoted to "The Psychical Kinship," with much of which we are in hearty sympathy, though we cannot accept the doctrine of mental evolution as propounded by Romanes, nor agree with Mr. Moore that "the jelly-fish and the philosopher are linked to each other by a continuous gradation of intermediate intelligences." We may grant a great deal to the writer without accepting statements like that. True, "the dog is a reformed bandit," but we decline to believe that "the human soul is the blossom, not the beginning of, psychic evolution," though we hold with Kingsley that a dog can form as clear an abstract idea of a tree as the lower races of mankind. The chief powers of the mind of man are sensation, memory, emotion, imagination, volition, instinct, and reason, and it can hardly be denied that, with the exception perhaps of the last-named, the animals in one degree or another possess these attributes in common with ourselves. The original sense was feeling, and nervous substance is found in all animals above the sponge.

The author concludes his section on "The Psychical Kinship" in the following outspoken terms :—

"Instead of the highest, man is in some respects the lowest of the animal kingdom. Man is the most unchaste, the most drunken, the most selfish and conceited, the most miserly, the most hypocritical, and the most bloodthirsty of terrestrial creatures. Almost no animals, except man, kill for the mere sake of killing. For one being to take the life of another for purposes of selfish utility is bad enough. But the indiscriminate massacre of defenceless innocents by armed and organised packs, just for pastime, is beyond characterisation. The human species is the only species of animals that plunges to such depths of atrocity. Even vipers and hyenas do not exterminate for recreation. No animal, except man, habitually seeks wealth purely out of an insane impulse to accumulate. And no animal, except man, gloats over accumulations that are of no possible use to him, that are an injury and an abomination, and in whose acquisition he may have committed irreparable crimes upon others. There are no millionaires—no professional, legalised, life-long kleptomaniacs—among the birds and quadrupeds. No animal, except man, spends so large a part of his energies striving for superiority—not superiority in usefulness, but that superiority which consists in simply getting on the heads of one's fellows. And no animal practises common, ordinary morality to the other beings of the world in which he lives so little, compared with the amount he preaches it, as man.

"Let us be honest. Honour to whom honour is due. It will not emaciate our own glory to recognise the excellence and reality of others, or to come face to face with our own frailties. We are our brother's keeper—our brethren are they that feel. Let us universalise. Our thoughts and sympathies have been too long wingless. The Universe is our Country, and our Kindred are the Populations that Mourn. It is well—it is eminently well, for it is godlike—to send our Magnanimity to the Dusts and the Deep, our Sunrises to the Uttermost Isles, and our Charity to the Stars."

It is, however, the section on "The Ethical Kinship" which has interested us most, and which closely concerns us as antivivisectionists. Mr. Moore says that "civilised men and women are troglodytes with a veneering of virtue" at heart; we have all a core of barbarism. "Egoism is the primal impulse of the living heart," "enmity is older than love," "inhumanity is everywhere," "aliens had no legal rights in ancient times." And so we treat the non-human millions as outsiders; they are mere things. The most mournful instance of provincial ethics is the conduct of the human race as a whole towards the non-human races.

Now, all beings have rights, but not equal rights, neither have all men; so we must act towards others as we would act towards a part of our own selves. This, says our author, is the Great Law :—

"Live and let live. Do more. Live and help live. Do to beings below you as you would be done by beings above you." "Pity the tortoise, the karydid, the wild-bird and the ox—poor, undeveloped, untaught creatures! Into their dim and lowly lives strays sunshine little enough, though the fell hand of man be never against them. They are our fellow mortals." "The Zoophilist and Animals Defender," March, 1906.

BUDGET ADDRESS.

28th March, 1906.

His Excellency the Viceroy :—I must in the first place congratulate my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Baker for the very lucid statement he has placed before us—a statement which I think we may all agree in accepting as distinctly satisfactory—all the more so that we are fairly entitled to recognise that the expenditure proposed for 1906-1907 represents no spasmodic effort on the part of the Government of India but that it is the continuation of a well-considered policy which the growing revenues of the country has enabled the Hon'ble Member to carry out. We appear to have no reason to imagine that we are under the influence of that intoxication known as a 'boom' in the New World, followed too often by the depressing effects of financial dissipation. The speeches which we have heard from Hon'ble Members to-day all hold out hopes of a solid and assured financial future, the chief problem of which will, I hope be not as to how and when we are to secure our revenue, but as to how and when we can best spend it.

I am very far from saying that we are free from trouble. We have famine and sickness with us still, a partial failure of the monsoon and a further delay in the winter rainfall have told the inevitable tale in parts of Northern and Central India, but still there has been no such misery as that of 1899 and 1900, and we may fairly hope that the money spent on irrigation in recent years and on the development of famine relief organisation may surely and steadily reduce our famine areas; whilst, as the Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson has told us, the Government of India owe a debt of gratitude to the noble liberality with which the Chiefs have realised their obligations in their own afflicted territories. The plague, however, stares us gruesomely in the face and is ever reminding us of the efforts we are urgently called upon to make for the sanitary welfare of the people.

Yet on every side there is indication of progress and of development, of which there is no better evidence than the increase in railway earnings, and the number of railways under construction, and with certain exceptions there is a general increase of revenue.

The net result is a surplus of 253 lakhs of rupees, 122 lakhs of which we propose to devote to the remission of taxation, the relief of local bodies and the assistance of administrative improvement. In a country of great undeveloped resources it must often be a question whether a revenue surplus should be in the main devoted to the further development of the country or to the reduction of taxation of its population. For my own part I believe that the future prosperity of India depends so largely upon the welfare of its agricultural population that relief in the direction we propose will have a wide spreading effect and will as a consequence further that development in other directions which we are so anxious to encourage. Sir Denzil Ibbetson has given us an insight into the valuable work of the Department he so ably administers, and if, after so short a residence in India, I may venture to give an opinion, I cannot say how fully I agree with him as to what I take to be his views in respect to agricultural indebtedness and agricultural expansion. We all know the cruel burden the former entails on the agricultural population; but I doubt the possibility of the Government of India ever being able to pay off this debt, and, like the Hon'ble Member, I doubt the policy of their doing so if they could. I believe that co-operative societies and agricultural banks carefully arranged systems of Government loans, coupled with the encouragement given to individual energy, will do much more to spoil the money-lenders' market and do it in a much more healthy way than any entire acceptance by Government of the debts of the agricultural community could ever do. Expert instruction in agriculture, will too as years go on, undoubtedly conduce to the same success as has attended the scientific care which has done so much to realise for India the wealth of revenue contained in her magnificent forests.

"But though I am inclined to recognise agriculture as the staple industry of the country. I am far from losing sight of the great commercial development and the rapid expansion of trade, of which the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett has spoken. The records of the Department of Commerce and Industry tell us not only of over-sea trade, the improvement of our harbours, and the establishment of commercial relations with other countries but also of the interior industrial development of India, much of which is only as yet beginning and the possibilities of which are so enormous; and nothing in the speech of the Hon'ble Member is to my mind more important than that sentence in which he conveyed the assurance that the Government of India earnestly desire to encourage local enterprise and that they mean to insist that in the case of articles required by Government which can be produced in this country at the same price and of the same quality as imported articles, the preference shall be given to local production."

"I am in thorough sympathy with all the Hon'ble Rai Sir Ram Bahadur has said in this direction. His contribution to the debate on education generally has been most valuable, but in an industrial sense the attention he has drawn to technical education deserves our most careful consideration. Technical instruction in other countries is growing apace, though it is not so very long since the necessity for it was so generally admitted as it is now. Competition has forced it upon us. We must not lag behind. The wealth, the welfare, the strength of a country that would hold its own in the world must depend largely upon the employment of its manhood in the development of its own resources. But now-a-days, in these days of rapid and easy sea transport, and in the face of our system of open markets, the home producer and home manufacturer must be prepared to face foreign competition or to fail. I am afraid he cannot expect his fellow-countrymen for the sake of patriotism to buy his goods if they are inferior and more expensive than goods from other lands, and I say to the supporters of Swadeshi,--that much abused word--that if 'Swadeshi' means an earnest endeavour to develop home industries in an open market for the employment and for the supply of the people of India, no one will be more heartily with them than myself. But if by Swadeshi is meant an inability to recognise the signs of the times, a mistaken desire to maintain industrial systems long out of date, to create false markets by prohibiting the people of India from the purchase of better and cheaper goods, it will have no sympathy from me.

"The ancient hand-loom cannot compete with modern machinery. There are indigenous arts in India which I hope may be forever preserved--the ingenuity, the characteristic skill of a people, should always be dear to them; but the success of modern industries and the preservation of indigenous industries is becoming every day more and more dependent upon scientific and technical knowledge, and if the resources of India are to be developed by the people of India, such development must depend largely upon local enterprise, upon the investment of Indian money and upon a recognition of the absolute necessity of expert training. There is no lack of opportunity for such native enterprise, which will well merit the assistance and encouragement the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur has so justly claimed for it.

"I have ventured to deal only very superficially with the chief points raised in this Debate and which the Heads of Departments have so ably dealt--points which chiefly concern the resources of India, its revenue, and the welfare of its population. But there is, on the other hand, the heavy expenditure we have to face in many branches of the administration, and chiefly in respect to the Army, to which the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has taken such strong exception. I have listened to all he has said with the

respect due to one who very eloquently represents the advanced views of a section of the Indian people--views which, though we may perhaps often disagree with, are the result of a study of the Indian political life of to-day and of a patriotic desire to share in the administration of public affairs--views which I shall always be ready to listen to and discuss. Recent events may at first sight appear to justify much of what the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has said. Russia's reverses in the Far East and our alliance with Japan undoubtedly at the present moment minimise the dangers of our Indian frontier, but I am afraid I cannot follow the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale in his conclusion that these dangers have disappeared for ever. He has told us that the tide of European aggression in China has been rolled back for good, that the power of Russia has been broken and that her prestige in Asia has gone. I am afraid these are mere assumptions which I can hardly accept. I am afraid I feel much more impelled to consider, what effect Russian reverses may have on the pride of a high-spirited military race, and I wonder in how long or in how short a time she may feel confident of recovering her lost prestige.

"Mr. Gokhale advises us to hang up our military reorganisation till a more disquieting situation arises; that is to say wait till the moment of danger arises before we put our house in order--and to trust to a military scramble towards efficiency. I hope that the danger of such military scrambles has at last impressed their risks upon us.

"He has also referred to the position of the people of India in respect to the military services. The position is a difficult one, and in some points it is not satisfactory; but I do assert this, and I know my colleagues will agree with me that the position is in no way due to a want of appreciation of the loyal services of the magnificent officers and soldiers of the Indian Army.

"His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has so clearly placed before us the view he takes of military requirements and military reorganisation that I need say very little. He has devoted a brilliant ability to the task of placing the Army of India on a footing of sound efficiency--an efficiency which can guarantee security, whilst he has reminded us that in the midst of a rising prosperity and increasing cost of living we cannot ignore the daily comfort of the Indian troops who serve us.

"Military expenditure is necessarily heavy in respect to the upkeep of all great armies. The criticism of such expenditure is often short-sighted. The price paid for an army is the premium paid for the insurance of the country. The huge armies of modern nations are not due either to any tendency to over-insure or to the promptings of mere military ambition. They exist in the first place for the maintenance of peace, because nations know that on their armed strength depends their immunity from attack. No nation can hope to be great and prosperous without being strong amongst its fellows. Its wealth, the welfare of its people, its commerce, its investments, its interior development, depend upon its security from hostile pressure--a security guaranteed only by the efficiency of its military forces--by the power of the strong arm. As long as the whole world continues armed to the teeth we must be prepared to pay for the safety of our existence. I hope we shall never be deceived into a false security.

"It is pleasant to remember that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, though they deeply realised the wants of the loyal population who so enthusiastically received them, visited India when its future seemed full of promise. I trust that promise may be fulfilled and that ever-increasing revenues will help to solve the administrative problems which surround us, and will ensure the progress and happiness of the people."

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CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Election of Ward Commissioners held on 20th March 1906.

The following list of candidates for election as Ward Commissioners, duly returned for the several Wards of Calcutta, under Schedule V. of the Calcutta Municipal Act, III. of 1899, is published under section 55 of the said Act :—

Ward No. I.—Dr. R. G. Kar, 107, Shambazar Street.

Ward No. II.—Rai Sita Nath Roy, Bahadur, B. A. B. L. 68, Sovabazar Street.

Ward No. III.—Babu Kali Charan Palit, 2, Jagdish Nath Roy's Lane.

Ward No. IV.—Babu Jodoonath Sen, 35 & 36, Shibnagarin Dass' Lane.

Ward No. V.—Kumar Denendro Narain Roy, of Jorasanko Rajbari, 79, Upper Chitpur Road.

Ward No. VI.—Babu Radha Churn Pal, 108, Baranasi Ghose's Street.

- Ward No. VII—Rai Hariram Goenka Bahadur, 31, Banstola Street.
- Ward No. VIII—Moulvie Badruddin Haider, Khan Bahadur, 1, Kaiser Street.
- Ward No. IX—Dr. Haridhan Dutta, L. M. S., 37, Beniatola Lane.
- Ward No. X—Babu Bepin Chandra Mallik, M. A., B. L., 15, Sree Nath Dass' Lane.
- Ward No. XI—Dr. Jogendro Nath Ghosh, 46, Nebutolla Lane.
- Ward No. XII—E. M. D. Cohen, Esq., 11, Old Post Office Street and 59, Ezra Street.
- Ward No. XIII—Immanuel Jacob Cohen, Esq., 36-3, Prinsep Street.
- Ward No. XIV—Moulvie Agha Muhammad Musa, 15, Gardner's Lane.
- Ward No. XV—David Jacob Cohen, Esq., 36-3 Prinsep Street.
- Ward No. XVI—G. Phillips Shelton, Esq., 16-6, Chowringhee Road.
- Ward No. XVII—E. S. Andrews, Esq., 67, Bentinck Street.
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- Ward No. XXI—J. Ghosal Esq., 26, Ballygunge Circular Road.
- Ward No. XXII—Babu Prys Nath Mallik, 55, Chuckerbaria Road, North, Bhowanipur.
- Ward No. XXIII—Babu Amulyadhan Addy, 8, Myerpore Road.
- Ward No. XXIV—R. Braunfeld, Esq., 30, Diamond Harbour Road.
- Ward No. XXV—Babu Nany Lal Banerjee, 20, Circular Garden Reach Road.
- C. G. H. Allen, Chairman of the Corporation.
- The 22nd March 1906.

The following return of gentlemen appointed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Calcutta Trades Association and the

Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, respectively, under section 8 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, to be Commissioners under that Act, is hereby published in pursuance of sub-section (a) of section 58 of the Act :—

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

1. Mr. John Ross Bertram.
2. " Shirley Tremearne.
3. " William Henry Miles.
4. " Thomas Robert Pratt.

The Calcutta Trades Association.

1. Mr. William Health Phelps.
2. " William John Bradshaw.
3. " James Peter Wyness.
4. " John Stuart McDonald.

The Commissioner for the Port of Calcutta.

1. Mr. L. F. Morhead.
 2. The Hon'ble Mr. Nolin Behari Sircar, C. I. E.
- C. G. H. Allen, Chairman of the Corporation.

The 27th March 1906.

No. 1388M.—The 27th March 1906.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 8 sub-section (2), clause (d) of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to appoint the following gentlemen to be Commissioners under that Act, namely :—

- Rai Koilas Chunder Bose Bahadur, C. I. E.
 Mr. W. Banks Gwyther.
 " F. G. Dumayne.
 Khan Bahadur Serajul Islam.
 Mr. A. E. Silk, M. I. C. E.
 " W. C. Macpherson, C. S. I.
 " W. J. Simmons.
 Raja Binaya Krishna Deb.
 The Hon'ble Mr. E. W. Collin.
 Mr. J. C. E. Branson.
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tribute to the memory of a native personality
as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of
of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the
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Letters upon record.—The "Times of India
(Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that
issues so freely from the press an apology is
needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee
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explanation would have been looked for. A man
of his remarkable personality, who was easily
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they did, and looked at public affairs from a
different point of view from theirs, could not
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attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual
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which is that the author belongs to a different
race from the subject. It is true that among
Englishmen there were many admirers of the
learned Doctor, and that he on his side un-
derstood the English character as few foreigners
understand it. But in spite of this and his
remarkable assimilation of English modes of
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remained to the last a Brahman of the Brah-
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heritance that wins nothing but respect and
approval. In consequence of this, his ideal
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VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,215.

VICEROY'S TOUR.

Lucknow, Mar. 31.

His Excellency replied to the Municipal address as follows:—

I beg to offer my sincere thanks to the Municipal Board and the citizens of Lucknow for the cordial welcome they have extended to me on my first visit to their city. I have long looked forward to visiting Lucknow and am glad that I have been able to do so, so early in my term of office. I must congratulate you heartily on the visit of Their Royal Highness The Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses were deeply interested in all they saw here and I trust that the Medical College which is to be the outcome of their stay amongst you may prove of unestimable benefit to the population and a lasting memorial of loyalty. The people of the United Provinces have indeed every right to be proud of the energy and liberality which has so rapidly ensured the success of the movement they themselves inaugurated. I assure you of my sincere sympathy in the distress, which I know too well is afflicting a portion of the population. I realise the difficulties and increase in prices which it must entail and I know, too, that should occasion unfortunately arise you will do all in your power to mitigate the sufferings of your poorer classes. Yet I hope that as years go on you may find that there is still much promise in the future and that the former prosperity of your City may be returned to it in double measure. It has been a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself to come amongst you to-day and I again thank you for the kindness of the reception you have extended to us.

The Viceroy's Reply to the Oudh Taluqdars' Address.

Gentlemen,—In the address of welcome you presented to me at Calcutta you very courteously expressed a hope that I might soon be able to visit the capital of Oudh, and it is a great pleasure to me to be able to realise that hope and to have this opportunity of being received by you in this hall so full of the history of bygone days. I am glad to think too that their Highnesses were able to hear from yourselves the expression of that loyalty to the sovereign which the Taluqdars of Oudh have so carefully cherished. It is deeply interesting to me to hear from you of the ancient connection of my family with the province. I have been told that when my ancestor, Lord Minto, was in Iddia, Nawab Saadat Ali Khan was the ruler of Oudh and that he was the best and wisest administrator the province ever had; and it is not impossible that the two broadminded statesmen had many views in common. I told you, I think, at Calcutta that as a landowner myself I could fully sympathise with you in the many responsibilities thrown upon you. People unconnected with the management of landed estates appear often to be incapable of understanding the difficulty of fulfilling the responsibilities the ownership of land always carries with it; but whatever these difficulties may be I am sure that in every country the secret of success lies in the friendly relations which ought to exist between landlord and tenant, between ryot and taluqdar; in the recognition that what is good for the one is good for the other, and that mutual assistance can alone ensure general prosperity. I hope that the surroundings of this rapidly changing modern world will not impair the characteristic individuality of the taluqdars, and that the administration of their

great properties will tend to draw their own interests closer and closer to those of the agricultural population. I am glad, indeed, to hear from you, gentlemen, that the noble words of Lord Canning have been justified, while you yourselves my well proud of the influence your own sterling qualities have had in ensuring the success of his predictions. I again beg to thank the Taluqdars sincerely for the cordiality of the welcome they have extended to Lady Minto and myself on the occasion of our first visit to this beautiful city.

Agra, April, 2.

The Viceroy's reply to the Municipal Address:

Gentlemen,—The cordial welcome of the Municipal Board and the residents of Agra is very gratifying to Lady Minto and myself, and it is a great pleasure to us to be able to spend a few days in your city so soon after our arrival in India. I heard much from the Prince and Princess of Wales of their visit to Agra, and I venture to congratulate you on the success of the reception your townspeople so loyally and enthusiastically extended to their Royal Highnesses. This is not my first visit to Agra. I was here many years ago, and returned to England deeply impressed by your historical monuments and the unrivalled beauty of the Taj, and it is pleasant now to look forward to reviving old recollections and to seeing all this again with the many improvements which I am told on all sides have done so much for the artistic development of your surroundings. It is curious that I should be following in the footsteps of my ancestor after a lapse of what must be nearly 100 years, for Lord Minto only came to India in 1807 and must have been here during the magnificence of the Moghul Empire and it owed, as you tell me gentlemen, its ancient splendour, not only to a legacy of unsurpassed Oriental art, but to a city, whose growing trade and commerce are rapidly placing it in the first rank of industrial centres in India. I congratulate the Municipal Board on the endeavours they are making to further increase its requirements. No labour will ever be better spent than that devoted to the supply of pure water and to sanitary organisation, and not only to sanitary organisation, but to a general enlightenment throughout the population of the meaning of sanitation, a disregard for which has I am afraid been answerable for so much misery in India. Lady Minto and I are much looking forward to our stay in Agra, and hope that other occasions may not be wanting to us in the future to visit its citizens.

After this ceremony followed the investiture. At 1-30 p.m. His Excellency received a visit from the Maharaja of Orcha, and later visited the Taj and Itmad-ud-Daula's tomb.

SIR ARTHUR LAWLEY.

HIS REPLY TO THE CORPORATION ADDRESS.

Madras, March 28.

Sir Arthur Lawley, in replying to the address presented by the Corporation of Madras, spoke as follows:—Mr. President and gentlemen,—I can assure you that it was a source of great gratification to me that I should have been selected for so high an honour as that which has been conferred upon me by my appointment to the Governorship of this great Presidency. I desire to express to you my high appreciation of the kindness of your welcome to me on my arrival at Madras. I had fully intended to reach this country before the departure of my predecessor, and it is a matter of very great regret to me that I was unable to do so. I had, as I said, fully intended so to do, but the peremptory orders of my doctor in London prevented me, and thus it was the force of circumstances and not my will that intervened between me and the ac-

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complishment of my original intention. It is also a matter of very great disappointment to me that Lady Lawley was unable to accompany me, as it was also to her. There are moments when a mother's duty to her children is paramount, and I would ask you to believe that this is one of them. She is only detained, I can assure you, by the condition of my son's health, which must, for some time to come, cause us both considerable anxiety. But when, as I hope it may soon be, that anxiety is removed, she will come to India with the least possible delay.

Now, gentlemen, I have been the recipient this morning of what I understand is an unusual compliment. I believe this is the first occasion upon which the Municipality of Madras has ever presented an address to an incoming Governor. I desire to thank you for the unique honour which has been conferred upon me. I venture to hope and believe that it is an expression of personal goodwill towards myself, and, therefore, I value it exceedingly, but I also value it highly because I believe it to be a proof of the very cordial relations, which exist between the central and local Governments here. I can well believe that Lord Amphil's personal influence was largely instrumental in bringing about such a happy condition. I can assure you that it will be my earnest endeavour to strengthen and maintain the friendly relations which now exist between us.

In the address with which you have just now presented me, allusion is made to the fact that I took a part in the initiation and the application to the Transvaal of a general scheme of local self-government. Well, the principles which guided us in carrying out that enterprise were: firstly, that we should establish a Government, which would not only be a Government in name, but actually in fact, and secondly, we realised that while we threw a great responsibility on the shoulders of those who undertook the control of the Municipal affairs, we should equip them with the necessary statutory powers, to make that control effective, and that we should also equip them with the necessary finances wherewithal to carry out their obligations. I think and believe that the various local bodies in the Transvaal had no reason to complain of the attitude and action of the Central Government towards them. If anything, I think, perhaps, we erred on the side of generosity, though, forsooth, we might well plead some justification for that seeing that in no one single town in the Transvaal did we find any organisation whatever to meet the requirements of a higher civilisation. Everything in what we may call the plant of Government had to be provided. The machinery had to be not only devised upon but had to be put together and set in motion. Well, gentlemen, as I said just now I think that we treated those bodies liberally, but in such circumstances we were perpetually face to face with the intensely difficult question as to how far the Central Government ought to go in allocating State assets to the exclusive use and benefit of separate communities. We may, as I said, have treated them too liberally if such a thing were possible which, perhaps, some of you, gentlemen, may doubt.

I hope that these questions are less likely to recur in a civil community like Madras than in a few country like the Transvaal. They are very difficult questions, and unfortunately they give rise to a good deal of misunderstanding. They must inevitably arise from time to time, and I venture to indicate to you what my policy has been in the past and to ask you to believe that I shall adopt the same policy I hope in the future. There must, of course, be times, perhaps, when I may decide to withhold when in your opinion I might with expediency give. If and when I do arrive at such a decision I will only ask you to believe that I shall do so on the conviction that it is my duty first to follow such a course.

Speaking of Municipal affairs there is one matter which made itself very apparent to me, and upon which if I do not detain you I should like to touch as the result of my experience not only in South Africa, but in the great self-governing colonies of Australia and that is, the admirable spirit of alacrity shown by the leading citizens throughout British dependencies in coming forward to sacrifice their own personal time and leisure and very often to sacrifice their own personal interests in order that they may devote themselves to the improvement of their city, and that they may remove the disabilities under which their fellow citizens may lie, and above all that they may establish and maintain a high standard of integrity in their dealings with municipal affairs. And history tells me, gentlemen, that precisely the same spirit has been manifested in Madras and is evident to-day, and thus you are a very solid and very valuable element in the fabric of Government, and to

my thinking it would be a monstrous and unnatural thing if there existed between the central and the local Governments anything but a spirit of harmony and a spirit of desire for mutual co-operation. Differences I am afraid there must be from time to time, differences of rights and differences of interest, but I can see none which is not capable of adjustment. I can assure you that during my tenure of office it will be my endeavour to prevent as far as possible such differences arising and when they do arise to get rid of them, to remove them with the least possible friction.

There are in this address allusions made to three matters of supreme importance. The first I need hardly remind you is the matter of an adequate drainage system for the city of Madras, and I should like to congratulate you upon the prospect of its early achievement. The second matter is one which seems to be of no less high importance and that is the supply of pure water to the town. The third is the prevention of plague, and that is an object which I am certain has the sympathy of every man throughout the civilised world. They are, as I say, three matters of supreme importance, but you will not misunderstand me, gentlemen, I am sure, when I say that it is obviously impossible for me at this juncture to give you any definite assurance in regard to them nor even to hazard any precise expression as to what the action of Government is likely to be. That would demand a full knowledge on this subject in order that it may help me in coming to a sound judgment upon it. I do not fail to recognise that these objects are ones upon which the advancement of the common weal largely depends and I feel sure that I may say that the Government will not evince either a dilatory or unsympathetic attitude in regard to them.

Gentlemen, I hope that I have no inadequate conception of the great responsibility which falls upon my shoulders from this day onwards. I have come here with the desire to serve my King and to devote my time and my energy and such ability as I possess to promoting the true well being of my fellow subjects to whatever section of the community they may belong, and with you I pray God that by divine guidance I may ably and honourably fulfil the duties which lie before me. Again I thank you one and all very sincerely for the honour which you have done me this morning.

HIS REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF THE LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

Madras, April 2.

A deputation of the Madras Landholders' Association with the Raja of Venkatagiri, the President, at its head, waited on Sir Arthur Lawley at Government House with an address of welcome this afternoon.

His Excellency made the following reply:—Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you very sincerely for your kind words of greeting and for the good wishes, which you have expressed to me to-day. To me, in my capacity as His Majesty's representative, your expressions of loyalty are peculiarly pleasing. You will not, I am sure, misunderstand me if I say that at this particular moment such an expression might seem almost redundant, even now the whole of this great continent reverberates, so to speak, with the universal chorus, which was raised by the myriad voices of India to greet the son of the King-Emperor and his consort. That chorus so far as I know, thundered right up to the foot of the throne of His Majesty himself. I can assure you gentlemen, from the words which fell to me from His Majesty's own lips, that he regards that manifestation of loyalty on your part with feelings of the deepest gratitude and highest appreciation. In your address you have alluded to the fact that the Governorship of this Presidency has been held and will now have been held by two members of the same family. This is certainly a unique fact in respect of this Presidency, and I believe I am right in saying it is unique in respect of the whole empire. With characteristic courtesy you have presented this incident as a matter of special satisfaction to me, but I can assure you that I otherwise regard it. I attempted to use an idiom, which, though expressive I am afraid was not a very elegant one, and to say that to my thinking the boot is on the other leg. I can only say that my brother, Lord Wenlock, treasures amongst the highest recollections the memory of the time which he spent amongst you. He looks back with pride on the fact that he should have been your Governor, and he regards the five years, which he spent in Madras as amongst the happiest of his life. For myself, I can assure you that the conferment upon me of so high an honour is a matter of particular gratification. I only hope I may prove worthy of the high office, which I have been called upon to fill. I thank you also for your kind allusions to my wife. I regard it as a very happy augury for myself, that among the very first, who should come forward to welcome me here are those, whose traditions, whose interest, whose lives, nay more, whose honour are deep rooted into their native land. You trace your history back to countless generations and you may fairly lay claim to speak to me to-day as true sons of the soil, and as such your words are spe-

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cially pleasing to me. The land, gentlemen, I need hardly remind you is the one permanent asset upon which every member of the body politic depends for very existence, and it is upon the successful development of its resources that the Government and the governed, the prince and the peasant, the semindars and the ryot alike depend. We all strive for that end, and though perhaps we may always agree as to the road by which that end should be reached, though at times it may seem to you that our methods do not commend themselves quite as fully as they might, yet I would, as you never doubt, that the one object which this Government has unfalteringly to pursue is the development of the material resources of this country, so as not only to improve the condition of the inhabitants of all classes, but also to make it possible to impose as light a burden of taxation as may be possible, to satisfy the just and necessary requirements of the Government. I am happy to think that there exists a law, whether written or unwritten I know not, which prescribes that one of the Governor's duties is to spend as far as his other duties will permit, as much of his time as possible, in touring through the Presidency, and these are provisions which I mean, as far as in my power lies to follow whenever occasion presents itself. Because gentlemen, I believe that it is only thus that it is possible for me to make myself acquainted with the local conditions to realize what are your aims and your aspirations, and to appreciate your difficulties, and your needs. Thereafter I may necessarily be in a better position to use whatever influence I may possess in advancing the landed interests of this country. I hope that my labours may result in something more practical than mere protestations of friendliness. At least I can assure you that it will be my endeavour to foster and promote these friendly relations which surely should exist between the Government and yourselves. Gentlemen, I will once again thank you for having come thus early to welcome me and to say that I am, indeed, grateful for your kind greetings and your good wishes for my future career and I thank you all.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, April 7 1906.

LORD MINTO AND SWADESHI.

THE Swadeshi movement, besides giving a great impetus to the country industries and turning the thoughts of the people to pursuits other than those to which they were hitherto confined, has brought out the need for protection to some products. The movement by itself is a form of protection, inasmuch as it calls upon buyers to eschew foreign articles and sellers to find country goods. It is a sort of tacit understanding to the effect that as far as possible only country-made things should be bought and sold. It imposes no restrictive duties upon foreign imports in order to create a sure market for country-made goods; it places no check upon the importers, because it cannot do so. It relies for success upon the people themselves. If the people voluntarily give up the use of foreign goods, the home products will reap the resulting benefit, and the protection thus secured by them will not be of that artificial character as belongs to the system of levying prohibitive duties upon goods the currency of which it is desired to check. The people resorting to such a method of protection gain in two ways, both equally important. First, they bring about the revival of and also create various industries, thus raising our dealers from the position of middlemen, as we may say, to that of growers, and increasing their prosperity; secondly, they learn to be more self-reliant, trustful, and ready to co-operate with each other in a common cause, and thus form a nationality of a distinct type. The possibilities of the movement are therefore many and varied, provided it is conducted in the right way and spirit. We cannot say that up to this time, it has always been guided in the best way. When the movement was first started, it carried

with it the smell of the partition affair, and was generally taken to be a temporary measure. The storm blew over, and a dim idea appeared that the movement might be enlarged in its scope and object and placed upon a broad, enduring basis. That idea is yet in course of development, and is growing steadily, but is still very imperfect and undefined. Not until it will come to be regarded as a purely economic movement, unconnected with any other purpose, will it effect the amount of good it is capable of producing. But let this pass. We started with saying that the movement is a sort of protection devised by the people to benefit their own products. This character of the movement has been largely recognised in authoritative circles, and as an economic factor, it has been spoken of encouragingly by the official classes.

Notwithstanding their avowed sympathy with the movement, the official class and Anglo-Indians generally, not to speak of Britishers, cherish an ill-concealed dislike of it. The Britishers, and the Anglo-Indians would be glad to support the movement if it did not clash in any way with the interests of British traders. They would prefer the people to direct the movement against all classes of European and American goods excepting British manufactures, and such advice has been actually tendered. The desire to keep the British trade safe is natural to British people; but we can hardly meet it without injuring ourselves. The main object of the movement is to enable the home-made cloth to get hold of the market of this country and replace the imported articles from Manchester. This cannot be done unless the purchase by the people of imported cloths is discouraged, and of swadeshi cloths encouraged and facilitated. Much as we would desire to maintain a friendliness with the British traders, we cannot certainly suffer for that purpose our own industries to die out. We must first put our own house in order and then think of others. This is a rule which every nation follows and adheres to. We cannot be enriching Manchester and our own producers at the same time. The most rampant free-trader will admit that protection is the only means whereby to create new industries. We need not refer to Mill or Adam Smith or Marshall who have defined protection as above. It is an axiomatic truth which is undeniable and is confirmed by history. England first rose to be a commercial country through protectionist policy. The Navigation Acts of 1651 were an undisguised avowal of England's commercial policy which was, protection against foreign competition. The policy grew. Wherever the English trade could be carried, protection aided the merchants and commerce flourished. The home manufactures prospered, the indigenous trade of countries under the subjection of England, dwindled, and England became great. When commercial supremacy was secured, England became a free-trader. Being not an agricultural country, it could afford to be so to some extent. Unable to grow its own food, it must cast the net wide, maintain an open door, and draw its necessities for internal consumption from all parts of the world. But England is careful to protect such industries as have the danger of being swamped by rivals. Europe is almost wholly returning to the protectionist policy. Signs in England even are not in favour of the continu-

ance of the free-trade principles of Cobden and Bright. Mr. Chamberlain is making more and more converts.

We need not enquire whether protection or free-trade is best suited to England. It is enough for our present purpose to know that England began as a protectionist and is now free-trading to a certain extent. There is a Bengali saying, "Age paji, pare babaji," meaning, "strictness first, indulgence next." England has acted up to the proverb by first securing the strength of its own market and then becoming a free-trader. Its object however is neither generous nor cosmopolitan as it pretends. The rate at which it is destroying under the name of free-trade, the trade of countries under its political domination, shows that it wants the trade of each country not to compete with rivals in the open market, but simply to make room for the British capitalist. Therefore is it that we are firmly of opinion that as for India, protection is unquestionably wanted for the growth of home industries which have been killed by the British Government. Lord Minto, the other day, in his speech on the Budget, approved of Swadeshi, but defined it as an attempt to develop home industries in the "open market." He further said that the home producer must face foreign competition or fail. He would not sympathise with Swadeshi which means "an inability to recognise the signs of the times, a mistaken desire to maintain industrial systems long out of date, to create false markets by prohibiting the people of India from the purchase of better and cheaper goods." Taken in this sense, Swadeshi means nothing and protection is a fib. The mere production of an article is not enough. There must be a stable market found for it. Otherwise the production will cease and the quality of the article will never improve. It is too much to expect a producer to place in the market an article which can from the start openly defy competition. How did Lancashire succeed? Is it "open market" which has made Lancashire what it is? Were not Indian silk fabrics and cotton cloths heavily taxed by England and these important industries thus killed? Does not Lancashire still enjoy advantages which if bestowed upon the home-producer would create a prosperous textile industry in this country? And what is false market? And where is the country which does not favour false market? What passes as free-trade is often free-trade only in name, not in reality. False markets we must tolerate and even help so long as we cannot do without imposing prohibitive duties upon some or other classes of goods. These duties are meant to check competition, and are not what would be sanctioned by strict free-trade principles. Alfred Marshall in his *Principles of Economics*, says, "The fundamental characteristic of modern industrial life is not competition, but self-reliance, independence, deliberate choice and forethought." If there were indeed no competition, there would be no prohibitive duties, but honest free-trade everywhere. He further thinks, "Man is not more selfish than he was, and is not more dishonest than he was." May be, but man is not less selfish or dishonest than he was. Open market is nowhere to be found. If England were always consistent, Indian industries would never have perished. It is adding insult to injury to calmly advise the people of India,—after throttling their flourishing trades, and rendering them im-

potent, speechless and powerless,—to note the signs of the times and lay aside industrial systems long out of date, and to face foreign competition or fail. England's iniquity cannot be forgotten. If the Government of India is at all desirous of benefiting our industries, it must afford to them protection and not leave them severely alone. Such meaningless phrases as "out-of-date industrial systems," "false markets," and so forth, will not help us at all. What is out-of-date to-day becomes the fashion to-morrow; what was fashionable yesterday becomes out-of-date to-day. Ideas progress and change. There is nothing which is out of date and as such negligible. An article selling cheap to-day becomes dear to-morrow after the imposition upon it of a duty, and an article which is dear to-day becomes cheap to-morrow as soon as the duty is taken off it. Cheapness and dearness are often artificial in this intensely artificial age. False markets we have got everywhere, and the Indian market cannot afford to be the only genuine and all-sides-open market in the world. To wish Swadeshi success in the open market is worse than openly wishing it failure, and we hope the benevolent desire will not be repeated.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

IN our last article (*Reis*, March 3.) on the subject, we stated briefly the present condition of the industry in India, intending to deal with the manufacturing industry later on. Since, the Government of India has published a correspondence on cotton cultivation in India, chiefly relating to the representation of the British Cotton-growing Association which has for some time past been trying to induce the Government to improve the quality of cotton produced here. Some credit is due to the Association for its efforts in the direction, for it has to be admitted that the measures which have been recently taken and are being devised by the Government of this country, are principally the outcome of the constant endeavours of the British Association. That Association however is not actuated by a desire to benefit the manufacturing industry of India, but to enable us to grow in large quantities the quality of cotton best suited for the purpose of turning out fine cloths, so that Lancashire may always count upon India as a reliable exporter of raw cotton. Experience has shown that America cannot be safely depended on for raw cotton, while Egypt does not produce enough cotton to satisfy the demands of the Lancashire mill-owners. The principal object of the British Cotton-growing Association is therefore to convert India into a producer of raw cotton and let her depend for manufactured cloth upon Lancashire. Still, India ought to turn to the best advantage this opportunity of growing good cotton, in order that the supply of fine yarn, thus assured, may enable her to bid higher and rise to the position of a manufacturing country and a formidable rival of Lancashire. With raw material at her command, and the extension of improved hand and power looms, she may some day succeed in ousting foreign rivals and getting a complete control of her own market. The demand for fine cloths having assumed a firm tone, it will not do for India to hope for success by using inferior yarns for the manufacture of cloths. If Lancashire had not begun to produce fine cloths, the present movement would by this time have completely

swept away the imported brands from the Indian market and the people would have been wearing all Swadeshi cloths. Fineness and cheapness have to be aimed at. Speaking for Bengal, fineness is perhaps more necessary than cheapness, provided of course the cost is not altogether disproportionate to the quality.

The vexed question of to-day relates to the manufacturing agency best suited to India. There is a body of expert opinion wholly in favour of handloom while others vote for mills and strongly deprecate all idea of introducing the handloom, however improved it may be. Perhaps, both are necessary. It is wrong to advise the people, as some have done, to lay aside the handloom, or to discourage the establishment of mills. Regarding handlooms, one or two facts cannot be ignored. Formerly, only a few decades back, when Lancashire had not got the monopoly of the market through one-sided legislation, the handloom alone used to clothe the people of the country. Good cotton was then grown by the cultivators, the weavers were confined to their hereditary profession, the taste for finery, created by European civilisation, had not developed, and the standard of living was low. Circumstances have vastly altered now. Lancashire has got advantages to the detriment of the local industry; the quality of Indian cotton has deteriorated and its production has fallen; increased cost of living and want of occupation created by the demand, which Lancashire is supplying, of fine materials, have forced the weavers to forsake their hereditary profession and enter other fields. The handloom industry has suffered a set back during these 25 years, and if not revived, will die out within another quarter of a century. Its potentiality however remains, and, properly worked, it may yet effect the prosperity of the Indian textile industry by offering a check to the growth of the Lancashire trade. On the other hand, mills are the fashion of the day and are steadily growing indispensable for floating a large industry. But they require a huge capital, not an easy matter for Indians to find; trust and co-operation between the workers, a virtue yet to be learnt by Indians; organising power and business habits, almost non-existent in India. Without these factors, it is idle, almost foolish, to form joint-stock companies and open mills. Recent experience is directly opposed to the flotation of joint-stock companies, and the warning ought not to be lightly set aside. Bombay, after a long time, has secured a market for her mill products, and is flourishing. But Bengal is not Bombay, and what may be suited to that presidency is not suited to our province. Industrial capitalists may and should start mills in Bengal. Their success may lead to the formation of successful joint stock companies. The handloom industry has not the drawbacks which mill industries suffer from. It requires a small capital, can be easily worked, and calls for no organisation on a huge scale. The great development the handloom has received since the birth of the Swadeshi movement is a proof of its suitability to Bengal.

From the papers on the subject read at the first Industrial Conference at Belur in December last, it would appear that more stress has been laid upon the necessity of developing the handloom than upon the establishment of mills. The remarks of Mr. Kwoji B. Patel, Director of Agriculture and Indus-

tries, Baroda, of Mr. E. B. Havell of the Calcutta School of Arts, and Mr. Alfred Chatterton, of the Madras School of Arts, on the potentiality of the handloom, are of great value. Mr. S. M. Johnson has recorded a different opinion that the handloom has no chance in the present age. The different views we mean to deal with in another issue. Suffice it to note here that the consensus of opinion is in favour of the handloom industry. The fact that even now, in spite of the immense popularity of mill products which have found their way into every village, the handloom still turns out roughly 140 crore yards of cloth against 220 and 67 crore yards supplied respectively by import from foreign countries and by Indian mills, is of no mean importance.

CARPET-WEAVING ON HAND-LOOMS.

[By Tuhin Chandra Mukerji, of the Indian Industrial Emporium, Guptipara, Bengal.]

THOSE who are interested in the development of Indian industries, in checking the evils of our society, in promoting the cause of Swadeshi movement wisely begun, and finally in arresting the ever increasing drain on the beggared exchequer of Indian gentry and nobility, might read with advantage the following account of the carpet trade.

The Indian word for carpet is 'galicha', a word of Persian origin. Sanskrit lexicons do not give any corresponding word. It is doubtful whether carpets came into use in India before the Mahomedan period. The chief seat of carpet industry in India being Agra unmistakably points to the patronage it received from the early Mogul emperors. Mirzapur became another seat of manufacture at a later period owing to the special facilities of raw materials at its command. The carpets of Agra are still held in high estimation in Europe and America. The beautiful reception room in the royal palace at Fontainebleau, France, of Empress Catherine-de-Medici, built in the 16th century, was upholstered with carpets from India taken by a Portuguese merchant. This gorgeous apartment is preserved just as the Empress left it in 1589. The favour which Indian carpets enjoy both in Europe and America at present may be gleaned from figures given below and taken from "Accounts relating the Trade and Navigation of British India" published by the Statistical Bureau of the Government of India. In 1896, in the month of August, 93,142 lbs of Indian carpet were exported to foreign countries, the United Kingdom consuming 63,156 lbs. In the corresponding month of 1897 the exports were 152,730 lbs valued at Rs. 1,27,960. In the five months from 1st April to 31st August 1896, 6,37,097 lbs of Indian carpets valued at Rs. 7,37,782 were exported to foreign countries from India. In the corresponding five months of 1893, carpets exported from India came up to 6,48,302 lbs priced at Rs. 8,54,933.

The tendency of indiscriminate imitation of foreign make has dominated so strongly our countrymen that, while Indian carpets adorn the palaces of European sovereigns, our fashionable community delight in foreign carpets at prices ranging from three to six times the prices of the manufacturers. The inferiority of foreign carpets need not be expatiated upon. Excepting the fillings, their warp and woof are entirely of coloured jute, while the fillings form a thin veneer of wool. Their attraction lies in their gorgeous aniline colours and artistic designs of flowers and figures. The carpets of Agra and Mirzapur are more substantially made of cotton, warp and woof and the fillings are so closely set and thick as to resist rough use of a century. It is in point of design alone that they are still a bit behind the mark. But the weavers are imbibing a taste for designs and good designs can now be had to order. Besides the numerous looms worked by native weavers at Agra and the neighbourhood, a large carpet factory is worked there by a European firm. The goods of this factory mostly go forward for export, but the best production is still from the hand loom.

As regards imports of foreign carpets into India, we find that in the four months from 1st April to 31st July 1896, the quantity of carpets exported from the United Kingdom and other countries averaged 85,711 lbs valued at

Rs. 1,02,594. In the corresponding months of 1898 the imports amounted to 120,741 lbs priced at Rs. 1,11,295. It seems therefore that there is field in India for the manufacture of European varieties of carpets, considering the high prices at which they are generally sold. The manufacture is not a difficult process as it is now imagined to be. There are several descriptions of Fly-shuttle hand looms in the United States of America which may suit weavers of small means. A cheap and efficient variety is that built by the Eureka Loom Company. Materials from which the carpets generally are made in America are worn out woollen fabrics and rugs. These are cut into small pieces, ravelled, twisted, coloured and spun into suitable yarn by means of a spinning wheel which the Eureka Loom Company also make. They also supply hand power twistors, cutters and ravelers. Wool is admirably coloured with aniline dyes.

Before understanding carpet weaving, the reader should note carefully the following weavers' terms:—

Warp—the thread which extends lengthwise in the loom and crossed by the woof or filling.

Reed—an instrument for separating the threads of the warp and for pressing the filling threads together.

Harness frame—that which supports the heddles.

Heddle—that which forms the harness to guide the warp threads in the loom.

Heddle Eye.—The loop or opening in the middle of the heddle through which the warp is drawn.

Knot.—80 warp threads one yard long. When applied to a reed it means 80 paces.

Cut.—Small skein or fractional part of a skein.

Single sley.—One thread in a space in the reed.

Double sley.—Two such threads.

Raddle.—A bar with a row of upright pegs set in it to keep the warp of a proper width and prevent it from getting tangled when it is wound upon the warp beam.

Warping bars.—An instrument for preparing the warp for the warp beams.

Spool rack.—A frame with rods for holding the spools when winding the warp on the warping bars, warp reel or warp beam.

Quill or spooling wheel.—A machine for winding the warp on spools, caps, or bobbins.

Shed.—The opening formed on the warp threads when changing or springing the harness.

Shot.—The passage of a shuttle through the shed.

Temple or stretcher.—An instrument for stretching the edges of the woven fabric out about as wide as the warp is in the reed.

Draft.—A design for a figure in the woven fabric.

Ground work.—The principal or body of the woven goods.

Fancy stripe.—A combination of contrasting or marked colours from a definite and uniform part of the woven goods either in the warp or filling.

Section or bout.—A fractional part of the entire length of the web.

Woof or woof.—The filling.

Doubler.—Two threads through a harness blade with one thread from another blade between them.

Pin-check.—A pattern in carpets made by drawing enough warp of two colours alternately through the harness to double-sley the reed (a No. 10 or 11 is about right). Filling should be all of one colour. Some prefer to draw two threads of each colour through the harness alternately.

Polkadot.—Same as pin-check, except that there are three or more colours in warp used. Hit-and-miss filling.

Rainbow.—A warp pattern in carpet containing the seven rainbow colours, violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red from 20 to 24 threads of each colour in a stripe. Double sley the reed and use filling of one colour.

Weaving that consists of passing the filling alternately over and under each other is called plain weaving and in this form is a very simple process; but if the weaver takes up first one, then two of the warp threads and passes his filling under them for the first shot of his shuttle, and raises those that were left down for the second shot, he produces what is called twill. Many varieties can be produced by varying the number of threads missed or taken up. An endless variety of fabrics can thus be woven. A number of carpet weavers make use of this feature and produce some beautiful patterns in carpet. A hand-shuttle

loom can readily be fixed for this purpose by using two sets of harness and treadles.

The materials mostly used for hand woven carpets and rugs are made from worn out clothing and the various kinds of carpets after they are worn out. These carpets are cut into suitable stripes and generally ravelled and then woven into new fabrics.

In order to make a good rug carpet good rugs are necessary. Light woollen dress goods, not too badly worn, are the best. The rugs should be cut into stripes about five eighths of an inch wide. If intended for a striped carpet, each colour should be served by itself and made into solid, round balls of not over a pound weight. Never wind more than one colour into a ball as it will mislead the weaver. Light and heavy goods should never be sewed together if you want a good carpet. Knots and bunches in rugs should always be cut out. If the rugs are designed for a hit-and-miss carpet, they should not be cut more than 6 or 12 inches long—the shorter the rugs are, the nicer the carpet will be. Rugs that are so poor that they can not be wound into a hard solid ball are not for carpet. Sometimes rugs are so badly rotted by the colouring that they are not fit to be put into carpet. Diamond dyes will not rot your goods. They are the best and the cheapest dyes. Light cotton dress goods come next to woollen goods for carpets. These can be mixed and sewed together and still make a nice carpet, but the nicest are made by using each kind separately. There are several hand cutters for cutting carpet rugs. The Eureka hand cutter will cut one pound of rugs in a minute after the rugs are placed on the machine. The rugs are all cut the same width. It takes from 20 to 24 ounces of rugs to make a square yard of carpet. Of course much depends on the amount of warp used and the manner in which it is put through the reed and harness. The great object to be aimed at in warping is to get the warp on the beam in such a way as not to have any loose or slack threads.

Reeds are numbered according to the number of threads to the inch, e. g., No. 10 reed takes 10 threads to the inch, No. 11, 11 threads and so on. Reeds Nos. 10, 11, and 12 are the ones most frequently used for rug carpet weaving. A fine reed requires more warp but less filling and will make a finer, nicer and smoother looking carpet. The best carpet weaver prefers a coarse reed double sleyed, i. e. two threads in a space to a fine reed single sleyed.

For plain simple weaving, every other thread of the warp should be drawn alternately through back and front harness. Care must be taken not to cross the threads between the harness blades as they will interfere with changing the harness. A double should always be corrected in carpet. The following are some of the carpets made on hand-loom:—

1. Plain rug carpet.—Select any colour for filling and warp desired and weave the carpet all of one colour. This variety of carpet is suited for staircase matting. Price per yard 15 cents (American) or about annas seven.

2. Hit-and-miss carpet.—Prepare the rugs by sewing all colour haphazard and weave either plain or striped warp. Price as above.

3. Striped carpet.—Weave a broad stripe of some colour or hit-and-miss for a body or ground work, then weave in fancy stripes, then another broad stripe, and so on. Price 20 cents or annas ten per yard.

4. Figures.—To weave squares, diamonds, crosses, roses or any other figure in a carpet, cut bits of cloth of suitable colours so that when laid side by side, they make the figure you wish to weave. These bits of cloth are then warped around the carpet rug in the proper place and order after the rug is put into the warp and beaten up. Time, patience and a little ingenuity on the part of the operator will work wonders. Price 25 to 50 cents or 12 annas to one rupee and nine annas per yard. Axminster, Wilton, Brussels and velvet carpets vary in price from 35 cents to 1 dollar per sq. yard. But prices of English carpets are much cheaper. Such carpets can be produced in India at a still cheaper cost and a large field exists here for their manufacture and export.

Besides the above, honey-comb, checker-board, seersucker, large square block, venetian, German checker, plain log cabin and log cabin carpets can be woven on hand

looms. A description of the processes by which they are made would take up more space than could be conveniently spared for this article.

THE following Home Department Notification No. 366, Simla, the 2nd April, 1906, was issued as a Gazette of India Extraordinary of that date:

A temporary vacancy having occurred in the office of an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India by the departure on leave of the Honourable Mr. J. P. Hewett, C. S. I., C. I. E., the Governor General in Council has been pleased, under the provisions of the Act 24 and 25 Vict., Cap. 67, section 27, to appoint the Honourable Sir Charles Lewis Tupper, K. C. I. E., C. S. I., to act temporarily as an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India.

The Honourable Sir Lewis Tupper has, on this day, taken upon himself the execution of his office under the usual salute.

WHY was the Dalai Lama chosen by the British Government to settle the Tibetan question, will never be published, but why the Tibetans allowed him to act as the mediator, has been traced by a friend to a poem, a translation of which is published at page 324 of Latham's Descriptive Ethnology, Vol. I. It is said:

"The Lamas teach us the dogmas of the faith; our parent good manners, let us endeavour to profit by their lessons: for, wandering at random in an obscure valley, we cannot walk securely, or penetrate the thoughts of the man who lives with us; but if the intercession of the Dalai Lama is favourable to us, we shall escape the snares of our enemies, and our secret faults will be pardoned by the three Bogdas."

The "intercession of the Dalai Lama is considered potent with "the enemy." Poor souls! they very little know the great revolution civilization has effected. The Dalai Lama whom they call, in the same song, "the prince of the law, the powerful king of all that exists," had to come down to Calcutta to dance attendance on the Viceroy. He must have lost his supernatural powers long ago owing to the Kali Yuga.

The three Bogdas referred to are the (1) Dalai Lama, (2) Bantshan Erdeni, and the (3) Kutuku Ghegen, the august three Buddhist dignitaries of the first class.

"THE Liberal Magazine" classifies (treating Labour members as Liberal) the result of the recent general Parliamentary Elections, thus—

| | L. | C. | N. |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|
| England ... | 337 | 127 | 1 |
| Scotland ... | 60 | 12 | 0 |
| Wales ... | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Ireland ... | 2 | 19 | 82 |
| Total ... | 429 | 158 | 83 |

THE Lieutenant Governor of the new Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam has been spoken of variously in various quarters. Many have found fault with him for his many attempts to put down the cry against the Partition. But it seems reserved for those who are not prepared to take him to task for his acts, to unconsciously give him a character which the most virulent of his critics never ascribed to him. Two morning papers of this city, one an Indian and the other an Anglo-Indian, by divesting the Lieutenant Governor's name of a letter, make him Bamfylde—or Bam-fylde—Fuller. Is then the first Lieutenant Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam a bam? Is he a Gipsy Governor? He may be wandering, as he has been on tour since assumption of the new charge. But is he tricking or of a tricky turn?

Composed of the first two letters of the English alphabet, and another, the thirteenth,—a number which averts the danger of the dozen from the dinner table and secures to the dozen an additional bread from the baker—"Bam" is not so short or simple a word as it may look. It is a contraction of a much longer word—its full length running up to three times as many letters, including in it the first as well as the last letter of the alphabet, two letters

the second and the fifteenth, occurring twice. Though of aristocratic origin, as regards its use, it is of Gipsy birth. Instead of being a bam, Sir Bamfylde refuses to be 'bamboozled by oriental tomfoolery.' Is this what the two journals mean by dropping the letter 'p'? That suppression may be convenient, but it is far from complimentary, it is positively offensive. Bam is sufficiently bad. Full or complete Bam is worse. Fuller the Bam is outrageous.

P. C. SEN, Deputy Collector, for Collector, under date Pabna, the 15th March 1906, in Government Gazette, Eastern Bengal and Assam, of the 24th and the 31st March 1906, notifies "for general information that the zemindari dak cess will be levied in the district of Pabna at the rate of Re 1-7 per cent. per annum on the total land revenue of the estates paying Rs. 50 or upwards for the year 1905-1907." Did not the Finance Minister, in his Financial Statement, made on the 21st March at the Viceroy's Legislative Council, announce the repeal of the zemindari Dak cess in Bengal, both old and new? Probably, the information of the abolition did not reach the new Government before the 24th or the 31st March, or reached it too late for action before the last date. Still, any one reading the Gazette would conclude that the order has no force in Eastern Bengal and Assam. This inattention may be made an argument against the efficiency of the new Administration for which it was created. An argument to meet that argument may be that the Eastern Bengal and Assam Lieutenant Governorship is undoubtedly a greater burden than the Assam Chief Commissionership. Then, there is no actual repeal of the law in the usual way. No Act of the Governor-General's Council directing the abolition of the cess or the repeal of the law under which it is levied has been passed. Bengal Act VIII of 1862, which is applicable to the new Province, is still in force. It is an Act to improve the system of Zemindari Daks in the Provinces subject to the Government of Bengal. Its section 8 reads thus:

"It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of every district, or for such other officer as the Government may from time to time direct, to raise, as hereinafter provided, the moneys necessary for the payment of the establishment required for the purpose of efficiently maintaining the zemindari daks within the district, from all zemindars, sadr farmers and other persons paying revenue direct to Government in respect of lands situated within the district."

The simple announcement in the Legislative Council is no authority to the Collectors not to act under the above section or give up realisation of the cess in force in their districts. Nor is it in the power of the Local Government to restrain them from levying the cess so long as the law is not rendered dead.

By his letter No. 287-295, dated Calcutta, January 23, 1906, Mr. Frederick Noel-Paton, Director General of Commercial Intelligence, laid before Local Governments and Administrations a proposal of a weekly commercial journal. It is to be "a weekly departmental journal dealing with subjects of interest to the commercial community. The journal will be edited and published by me; and in order that the information contained in the publication may be full and up to date it is necessary that I should receive information on all subjects of interest to merchants and manufacturers as soon as it becomes available." The object of the journal, as stated in that letter,

"would in all cases be to bring such information directly to the knowledge of those members of the commercial community who might be likely to interest themselves in the exploitation of the resources so disclosed."

And

"It is hoped that the journal may in this way afford Government officers a means of addressing themselves to the persons most able to assist in the economic development of their districts, and for this reason it would be desirable that such officers should be encouraged to communicate as freely as possible with the editor."

The Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam has accepted this proposal. It is of opinion:

"The commercial interests of this province are of ex-

ceptional importance and many of its resources being still undeveloped, it will be to its advantage that the mercantile community should be kept informed of possible sources of supply or existing local production. This is particularly the case in regard to such products as coal, oil, lime, timber, rubber, shellac, silk of various kinds, fibres, tobacco, and sugar. Commercial interests in tea and jute are at present supplied with fairly full information. But it is probable that, in respect to these staples also, the new journal will offer a most useful occasion for the dissemination of news."

Therefore,

"the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that Government officers and private individuals who have special knowledge which is of commercial utility, will contribute to the journal freely."

As reported in the "Hindoo Patriot" (April 2), the Chief Magistrate, on the 31st March, fined an Excise Jamadar, Sewbaran Sing, Rs. 75 "for illicit sale of cocaine, at night in the premises of the Calcutta Collectorate;" and a Delhi merchant, Mohammad Ibrahim, and his servant, Nawab Hossain, Rs. 200 and Rs. 100 respectively, "for illicit possession of 3/8 oz. of cocaine." In the "Englishman" (April 4) we read that for "illicit sale of a quantity of cocaine," the second stipendiary Magistrate sentenced one Ebrahim, an ex-constable of the Calcutta Police, and his servant to six months' rigorous imprisonment. The same paper also reports on the same day that the Excise Department charged one Vizir Meah of Garden Reach before Babu R. N. Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Alipur, with systematically smuggling opium. A large quantity was found in the possession of the accused, who was convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

42,612 persons visited the Indian Museum during the month of March, the total being made up of 1,273 Europeans, and of 41,339 Natives of India. The daily average during the 21 days on which the Institution was open to the general public was 2,029.

SIR FRANCIS BURNAND.

A TRIBUTE IN VERSE.

"R. C. L." contributes to "Punch" the following tribute to F. C. Burnand."

Hushed is the voice of jesting, and dim each friendly eye,
For, lo, we come, your soldiers, to bid you our good bye,
To you who loved to lead us and whom we loved to boast,
The chieftain of our revels, the Captain of our host.

Dear Frank, our fellow fighter, how noble was your praise,
It is kindly tang your welcome on those delightful days
When, gathered in your presence, we cheered each piercing hit,
And crowned with joy and laughter the rapier of your wit!

And if our words grew bitter, and wigs, that should have been
Our heads' serene adornment, were all but on the green,
How oft your sunny humour has shone upon the fray,
And fanned our fiery temper, and laughed our strife away.

In many a gay adventure, in many a joyous raid
You led us and we followed, alert and undismayed:
Or if the onset slackened, your cheery call came plain
To nerve our drooping courage and hearten us again.

And now you doff your armour, dear comrade, and you go;
Your res: we cannot grudge you, since you would have it so;
Yet hear us as we pledge you, and take us yop depart,
The fond and faithful homage of every loyal heart.

Our part shall be to cherish the lustre of your name,
To guard in pride and honour the record of your fame;
And fired by your example, to wield a flashing sword,
Not Punch to whom you bound us, our master and our lord.

THE COCOA-NUT.

Mr. Chirpal, special correspondent of the Times with the Prince and Princess of Wales, in his letter dated Quilon, February 5, writes about the cocoanut, thus:

"The cocoanut constitutes unquestionably the chief wealth of the country, and there is no tree which can be converted to so many useful purposes. The natives build their houses and their boats from beams and rafters furnished by the trunk, whilst the leaves when plaited together make thatch for their roofs and coarse sails for their craft. The finer fibres are woven into mats, and even into more delicate tissues. The nuts, after the coal milk and the sweet kernel have been extracted, are shaped into cups and other domestic utensils, whilst the fibrous husk which envelops the nut can be twisted into coarse yarns and even into ropes as stout as any hempen cable. And these represent but a very few of the three hundred and sixty blessings which according to the Hindu poet, this most excellent tree, sacred to Ganesha, conveys to man."

We take the following account from the National Cyclopædia of Useful Knowledge. London, 1848:

"The cocoa-nut palm rises like a slender column to from 60 to 90 feet in height. Its stem is of a soft fibrous nature, and is marked on the outside by rings produced by the fall of its leaves; two such leaves are said to drop off annually, and consequently the age of an individual is equal to half the number of the annular scars of its stem. About a dozen or fifteen leaves, each from 12 to 14 feet long, crown the summit of the stem; and, as these are not inaptly compared to gigantic ostrich feathers, they give the plant the air of an enormous tuft of vegetable plumes. One tree produces in good soils from 80 to 100 nuts annually.

In hot countries the uses to which the cocoa-nut tree is applicable are innumerable. The roots are chewed in place of the areca-nut; gutters, drains, and the posts of huts are formed from the trunk; the young nuts are a delicate vegetable; shade is furnished by the leaves when growing, and after separation from the tree their large size and hard texture render them invaluable as thatch for cottage? They are moreover manufactured into baskets, buckets, lanterns, articles of head-dress, and even books, upon which writing is traced with an iron stylus. Their ashes yield potash in abundance; their midrib form oars; and bruses are formed by bruising the end of a leaf with a portion of the midrib adhering to it. From the juice of the stem, a kind of palm and subsequently an ardent spirit wine, are prepared; the fattaceous matter contained in the stem is a good substitute for sago; and a coarse dark-coloured sugar, called jagghery, is obtained from inspissating the sap. This jagghery, mixed with lime, forms a powerful cement, which resists moisture, endures great solar heat, and will take a fine polish. The ripe fruit is a wholesome food, and the milk it contains a grateful cooling beverage; indeed these together constitute the principal sustenance of the poorer Indians in many countries. The fibrous bark is used to polish furniture, as brushes, and to form a valuable elastic cordage, called coir; the fibrous matter of the husk is also employed to stuff mattresses, and a manufacture of it into cordage, mats, sacking, &c. has lately sprung up in Great Britain. The shell is manufactured into drinking-vessels and vessels of measure; and, finally, the albumen, or white solid matter contained within the shell, yields by pressure or decoction an excellent oil; pressure is the method usually employed. This oil is not only employed for burning, but in the manufacture of torches, and in the composition of pharmaceutical preparations; and mixed with dammer (the resin of Shorea robusta) it forms the substance used in India for covering the seams of boats and ships.

Cocoa-nuts are brought to Europe as wedges to set fast the casks and other rounds packages in the cargo of vessels; their freight therefore costs nothing."

IN MEMORIAM.

BANKIM CHANDRA.

The Bande Mataram Samoradaya cordially solicits public co-operation to commemorate the death anniversary of the illustrious Bankim Chandra.

On Monday morning the 9th instant, at 6-30 the Sampradaya will meet at Raja Radhakanta's Bathing Ghat at Kumartooly, where after performing "Ganga Snan," Bankim Chandra's noblest and greatest gift to the Nation—Bande Mataram—will be sung and its lessons propounded. In the evening the Sampradaya will attend bare-footed chanting the immortal song at the public meeting going to be held in memoriam—Bankim Chandra.

Sures Chandra Samajpati,

Nanda Kishore Mitter,

Secretaries.

LINIEVITCH INTERVIEWED.

CAUSES OF RUSSIA'S DEFEAT.

Adjutant-General Linievitch, who arrived home the other day his retirement from the chief command of the troops in the Far East, has been interviewed by the "Gazeta." The General says that Port Arthur capitulated at least one month too soon, and then the step was taken by Gen. Stoessel from his own personal feelings and not as the result of any decision arrived at by the Council of War. The spirit of the men is excellent, and disorders have occurred only among the Reservists, who complained, but very justly, that the authorities failed to send them home when the war was over. Gen. Linievitch speaks very highly of the bravery of the Russian soldier, and he regrets that he received the order to retreat just when he had perceived that the Japanese were quite worn out and had lost their energy. He says that if he had been in chief command at Mukden he could perhaps not have withdrawn his men.

The causes of Russia's defeat are alleged by Gen. Linievitch to have been above all else Russia's unpreparedness for war, and then he faults way in which men were taken out to the front. "I asked for ten pairs of trains daily, and that was little enough, yet at the beginning of the war only three pairs of trains ran daily. Men, guns, food, and ammunition all had to be taken to the front. When the war broke out we had only 30,000 men in the Far East. What could we do with them? We did not think that Japan would wake up its mind to attack us."

Gen. Linievitch says that the Japanese soldier stands far above the Russian soldier in education and training, and above any European in his contempt of death. In Gen. Linievitch's opinion, "the war shattered for ever Gen. Dragomiroff's teaching, that the soldier must advance straight to the attack without taking any cover. The Russian soldier followed this teaching, and yet did nothing, for personal bravery avails nought in the face of modern artillery and rifle fire; a modern leader must be clever, talented, and able to accommodate himself to all conditions." Gen. Linievitch thinks that Russia must maintain 200,000 men in the Far East to keep order, he does not anticipate any "Yellow Peril" or the awakening of China before at least the end of this century; but he sees his greatest peril from China in Chinese cheap labour.

THE BUDGET.

March, 28.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S SPEECH.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief said:—"My Lord, My Hon. Colleagues, the Maharaja of Durbhanga and Mr. Gokhale have both raised the question of army expenditure, and the latter has re-iterated many of the arguments and assertions which we have heard at each Budget debate during the three years I have had the honour of sitting at this table.

The Maharaja of Durbhanga has asked:—"What is the use of alliances if we are not to take advantage of them?" But surely we must recognise that there are higher and more world-wide interests underlying our alliance with Japan than the mere pecuniary advantage to this country that he puts forward. It is, of course, evident that, owing to recent events, we have a breathing space in which to complete the precautionary measures which have been recognised to be indispensable. But that is no reason why we should abandon our efforts to remove obvious and acknowledged defects and deficiencies, or reduce our army below the standard that was considered necessary before any of these events occurred.

I am glad, however, that this discussion has been raised: as it gives me an opportunity of trying to place the matter of army expenditure before my Colleagues in a light in which it may not have been put to them before.

I think it will be allowed that military expenditure must be considered from three broad standpoints:—

- Firstly.—Efficiency and sound organisation;
- Secondly.—Economy in the expenditure of the funds voted for the army; and
- Thirdly.—The strength of our forces, and the remuneration our men receive for their services.

HAHNEMANN SOCIETY.

NOTICE.

The 151st anniversary in commemoration of the birthday of Samuel Hahnemann will be held at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, 210 Bow Bazar Street, on Tuesday the 6th April at 5-30 p.m. Dr. G. S. Chunder Dutt, L. M. S. will read a paper "On the Sanitation of Calcutta."

All medical practitioners and the public are cordially invited to attend.

Calcutta,
4th April, 1906.

Akshay Kumar Datta, L.M.S.,
Honorary Secretary.

The time at our disposal is limited and I have no desire to encroach on your patience unnecessarily. But I should like to make a few remarks under these main heads which I trust will show my Hon. Colleagues that I unite with them in their desire to secure efficiency and economy in all matters—particularly military—and that I consider it would, of course, be unjustifiable to maintain any forces which can be proved to be superfluous for the necessities of this country.

The Hon. Mr. Gokhale would prefer to rely entirely on what he terms "citizen-soldiership," framed on Japanese lines. From my short experience of this country and its inhabitants, I am not convinced that the people of India would welcome, with all his enthusiasm, the introduction of conscription, with rates of pay that would necessarily be very much lower than the soldier receives at present; and, if Mr. Gokhale does not mean this, I cannot follow his argument that, "the present military burden will be largely reduced." I cannot help thinking, also, that it is possible that the martial spirit which he wishes to develop might have drawbacks to the class he most closely represents which my Hon. Colleague has not fully contemplated.

Although both of my Colleagues object generally to military expenditure I hardly think either of them would be satisfied unless the army of this country were maintained in as efficient a manner as possible. I feel sure also, that they will agree with me that in all great industries it is the unquestionable duty of employers of labour to do all in their power to remove any deficiency or defect in their arrangements which might be productive of needless risk or danger to their dependents. It is a simple, rudimentary obligation in the relations between Master and Servant, which I feel sure no member of the community would attempt to challenge, and I think those who represent the mercantile communities of this country will admit that it is only a wise policy to prevent their workpeople being hampered by antiquated machinery or insufficient materials.

Now there is a class of public servant which I think should not be excluded from equal consideration in this respect. It is a class of men of whom we are justly proud, who have brought much credit to the Empire and on whom we have to rely for the maintenance of peace and security in this country. I refer to the Army in India. It must be remembered that these men are prepared to give their lives freely for the integrity and honour of this country and have proved the fact in innumerable instances. If then, the owner of a mine only does his duty in securing his employees from the obvious risks which surround them in the exercise of their calling—if he would rightly be convicted of a grave dereliction of such duty if he were not to protect them from the

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dangers of fire-damp, or were to send them down into the shafts in worn-out cages—surely a Government only fulfils an equally essential obligation in endeavouring to protect its soldiers, who devote their lives to the State, from needless destruction, by giving them the means which are essential for the performance of their dangerous duties.

There is also another aspect of the case which I think will appeal to my Hon. Colleague.

We have recently had an example of how efficient organisation and preparation produce remarkable results in war. The Japanese prepared for possible eventualities, with the result that, when the time of trial came, they passed triumphantly through what every one recognised was a critical turning out point in their national history, instead of being crushed as some expected they would be in their recent struggle against a great Military Power. Do those who represent the best opinions in this country desire that it may be said that the Indian soldiers are inferior in fighting quality to our gallant allies, not because of any want of bravery or patriotism on the part of the men themselves, but because of their not being given the necessary organisation and equipments. I think not; and I feel sure that my Hon. Colleagues the Maharaja of Darbhanga and Mr. Gokhale would be the first to resent any disparaging remarks of this sort against their countrymen, and that they would wish to prevent the possibility of any such comments being even limited at or suggested.

In addition, therefore, to the paramount obligation of securing the peace and safety of the State, it seems to me to be incumbent on Government both on the score of humanity and also for the honour and fair-name of the people of this country, to see that our soldiers are not sent into the field imperfectly organised with inferior weapons, and without the necessary ammunition and other essential warlike stores.

That is what we are trying to do. We should of course, prefer to have our measures even more highly perfected, so as to have a margin of safety which would give our troops the advantage over an enemy. But that is at present beyond us. We are merely trying to bring our equipments up to a standard equal to that of possible opponents, and remove defects which have too long remained unrectified. However we may desire to study economy, we are compelled to pay some measure of regard to the re-arrangements and military progress in other countries, and are often forced against our wishes into expenditure which we should prefer to devote to other objects. It is also an unfortunate fact that, ever since the days of bows and arrows, the cost of lethal weapons and munitions of war has steadily increased. That, however, is a factor beyond our control. But we have been and are still doing the best we can to reduce the expenditure thus caused as much as possible. By the extension of Indian factories we hope to be able to turn our guns and other equipments more cheaply than we have hitherto been able to obtain them from England; and this course will have the further advantage to India that the money spent on labour will go to Indian workpeople.

Under the arrangements which have recently been introduced Army expenditure will, in future, be under the direct control of the Finance Department. I should, therefore, be trespassing on my honourable friend Mr. Baker's preserves if I were to enlarge on the subject of economical expenditure of money. But I am conscious that he relies on my full and cordial co-operation, to prevent waste of all sorts, so that the funds voted for the army may be expended with strict regard to economy and due regard to military efficiency.

At the last debate on the Budget, my Hon. Colleague, Mr. Gokhale, took exception to a remark that his knowledge of military matters was not extensive. I have not the temerity to repeat a proposition which he said was superfluous. But I do say that the correct appreciation of our military position necessitates long and careful examination, by the best experts we can get with full knowledge of the numerous factors which affect the problem. When such investigations have been completed and laid before the Government, it is for them to decide what means should be provided, that is, what the strength of the army should be. But I think everyone will agree with me that before even discussing any addition to our forces, it is our duty to try, by improvements in our arrangements, to make the best of those already at our disposal. This is what we are trying to do. This is mainly what the Reorganisation Scheme means, regarding which there seems to be considerable misapprehension. Some appear to have misgivings that a large increase to the forces is projected, others that the bulk of the expenditure is to be spent on buildings. Both assumptions are widely incorrect. As the result of a long and elaborate examination, it has been found that, by improved methods, we should be able, out of our existing forces to place in the field an army of practically double the strength that was previously considered possible. The expenditure now being incurred, which is only a fraction of what would be required if we had to add an equal number of new units—is partly for the equipments of these additional

troops. But it also includes the cost of new rifles; the introduction of quick-firing guns for the artillery, which in turn, involves larger reserves of ammunition and ammunition columns; improvements to our transport, the coast defences, and many other measures which have long been recognised as indispensable. The bulk of the expenditure is for these services, and only a small proportion is being incurred on the necessary accommodation required for the better distribution and consequent better organisation and training of the army. As I have shown, we are spending more in reorganising our existing materials and not on a material addition to the force; though, as a consequence of the experiences in South Africa and Manchuria we are also trying to reduce the large deficiency in officers, and are building up a larger reserve for the Native arm which is a move in the direction which the Hon. Mr. Gokhale advocates. In taking these precautionary measures, we are spreading the cost over a considerable period, so as to reduce in convenience as far as possible; and when they have been completed, we may hope that military expenditure will be largely reduced.

When we come to the question of the remuneration which men in the army receive, I feel sure that my Hon. Colleagues do not consider the sepoy overpaid. Indeed, having regard to the increased cost of living, I should be somewhat surprised if they did not think the converse to be more correct.

I trust that I may have been able—even if it only be in some slight degree—to reassure my Hon. Colleagues that we are not indulging in military extravagances; but on the contrary, are endeavouring, by overhauling our existing machinery, to obviate increases which might otherwise have been forced upon us. I must be remembered that if we are to secure peace and tranquility to this country, which are essential conditions of its material progress and advancement, we must be watchful; and whilst resisting any tendency to be influenced by extreme view on either side, it is necessary that we should methodically and systematically organise the available means at our disposal. Capitalists will not place their money in India, or assist in the development of its resources, on which this country's prosperity much depends, unless they are convinced that there is assured security. Therefore, if we desire to attract capital and act up to the motto:—"Advance India," we must be careful that no idea gets abroad that our position is insecure or that we are neglecting necessary precautions.

My Lord, in the gracious message which is Royal Highness the Prince of Wales sent to Your Excellency as he was leaving India he referred to the grand traditions of the army in this country and to the keen spirit and general striving towards efficiency and preparedness for war which appeared to His Royal Highness to animate all ranks. I can assure Your Excellency that the Army of India deeply appreciates the high commendation thus bestowed upon them by our King Emperor's son. The loyalty, bravery and devotion of this army are all factors upon which confidence can be placed; but its preparedness to take the field must depend largely upon the action of Government, for even an army of heroes can only be sacrificed if it be not provided with the necessary organisation and equipments which are essential for success in modern war.

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It is not that amid the pressure of harassing
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tribute to the memory of a native personality
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than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

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A man of large heart and great qualities
his death from pneumonia in the early spring
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to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable
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letters upon record.—The "Times of India
(Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that
issues so freely from the pen an apology is
needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee
the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an
explanation would have been looked for. A man
of his remarkable personality, who was easily
first among native Indian journalists, and in
many respects occupied a higher plane than
they did, and looked at public affairs from a
different point of view from theirs, could not
be suffered to sink into oblivion without some
attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual
expedient of a *Life*. The difficulties common to
all biographers have in this case been increased
by special circumstances, not the least of
which is that the author belongs to a different
race from the subject. It is true that among
Englishmen there were many admirers of the
learned Doctor, and that he on his side under-
stood the English character as few foreigners
understand it. But in spite of this and his
remarkable assimilation of English modes of
thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee
remained to the last a Brahman of the Brah-
mans—a conservation of the best of his in-
heritance that wins without but respect and
approval. In consequence of this, his ideal
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VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,228.

BIRTH-DAY CELEBRATION HONOURS.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Simla, Friday
June 29, 1906.)

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The Honourable Mr. Leslie Alexander Selim Porter, Indian Civil Service, Commissioner, Lucknow Division, and an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations.

The Honourable Mr. John Lewis Jenkins, Indian Civil Service, Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium, and Akkari, and Reporter-General of External Commerce, Bombay, and an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.

Lieutenant-Colonel Willoughby Pitcairn Kennedy, Indian Army, lately Agent to the Governor of Bombay, Kathiawar.

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Babu Krishna Chandra Sanyal, Sylhet, Assam.

Seth Ram Copal, of Secunderabad, in the Hyderabad State.

Rawat Ganesh Ram, Kamdar of the Dungarpur State, Rajputana.

Lala Mangu Mull, Postmaster of Delhi, Punjab.

Rao Bahadur.

M. R. By Nallam Chuckravati Rajagopala Charier Avergal.

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Yathunatha Narayana Row Avergal, Head Cashier, South Indian Railway.

Hari Vinayak Satche, Fourth Grade District Deputy Collector the Bombay Presidency.

Mr. Nagardas Narotamdas Nanavati, an Honorary Presidency Magistrate, Bombay.

Motilal Chunilal, a retired Deputy Collector of the Bombay Presidency and President of the Broach Municipality.

Vinayak Moreshwar Kelkar, M.A., District Judge, Nagpur, Central Provinces.

Seth Bachraj, Honorary Magistrate and Member of the Municipal Committee, Wardha, Central Provinces.

Babu Damodar Rao, Financial Member of the State Council, Poonk, Rajputana.

Rao Saheb Ramji Pandu, Inspector of Police, Poona, Bombay.

Sardar Bahadur.

Sardar Dyal Singh Man, Deputy Collector, Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department, Punjab.

Sardar Abdul Rashid Khan, Shawani, Kalat, Baluchistan.

Sardar Uttar Singh, retired Sub-Engineer, 3rd grade, Military Works Services.

Sardar Shamsher Singh, Senior Member of the Executive and Judicial Committee of the Jind State.

Khan Sahib.

Sheikh Muhammad Munir, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Punjab.

Muhammad Taki, Tahsildar of Bhandara, Central Provinces.

Mr. Shapurji Shorabji, late Sub-Engineer in the Public Works Department, Central India.

Yakub Khan, Officer in charge of the Alwar State Stud, Rajputana.

Malik Azam Khan, Kudezai, of Bori, Baluchistan.

Muhammad Zaman, Supervisor, Military Works Services, North-West Frontier Province.

Sheikh Ahmad, 1st Class Hospital Assistant, Indian Subordinate Medical Department, Bengal.

Abdul Karim, Sabadar, Peshawar Border Military Police, North-West Frontier Province.

Rai Sahib.

Pathak Sheo Sahai, of Etawah, United Provinces.

Mian Mala Singh, Inspector, Punjab Police.

Purushottamrao Bhagwant Deshpande, Honorary Magistrate and Member of the Municipal Committee, Ellichpur, Berar.

Seth Dalu Mal, of Panni, Baluchistan.

Lala Ganpat Rai, Inspector of Police, North-West Frontier Province.

Lama Shah-dung Ngawang Pedma, Tibetan Clerk, Gyantse Trade Agency.

V. Murugesu Mudaliyar, 1st grade Hospital Store-keeper, Supply and Transport Corps, 9th Secunderabad Division.

Babu Lakshmi Narayan Burman Superintendent, Office of the Department of Military Supply.

* Narain Singh, Inspector of Police, Ludhiana, Punjab.

Rao Sahib.

M. R. Ry. Muttada Rama Rao, Extra Assistant Conservator, Madras Provincial Forest Service.

Prabhakar Ramkrishna Bhandarkar, B.A., L.M.S., Assistant Surgeon of the Indore Charitable Hospital, Indore State, Central India.

Kyet thaye saung shwe Salwe ya Min.

Maung Tun Lwin, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Burma.

Maung Shwe Tha, A. T. M., Assistant Superintendent of Police, Burma.

Akumdan gaung Taseik ya Min.

Maung Po Maung (3), Extra Assistant Commissioner, Burma.

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KAISAR-I-HIND MEDAL.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General is pleased to announce that His Majesty the King, Emperor of India, has been graciously pleased to award the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal for Public Service in India of the First Class to—

Margaret, Baroness Amphil, C.I.

Maulvi Mehdi Ali Khan, Honorary Secretary of the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College, Aligarh.

The Reverend Lars Orsen Skrefsrud, Secretary and Treasurer, Indian Home Mission to the Sonthals.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General is pleased to award the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal for Public Service in India of the Second Class to—

Miss Grace Mackinnon, L. R. C. P. & S. (Edin.), Lady Superintendent, Duchess of Teck Hospital, Patna City.

Maung Po O, Myothugyi of Monywa.

1st Class Military Assistant Surgeon Robert James Owen, Indian Subordinate Medical Department, lately Assistant Surgeon at Palampur, in the Kangra District, Punjab.

Miss Agnes Turnbull, M.D., of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission at Indore.

London, June 29.

The following appear in the Birth-Day Honours Gazette :—
Order of Merit.

Lord Cromer.

Peers.

The Right Hon'ble Mr. Leonard Courtney.

Mr. Shaw Lefevres Perrie of Belfast.

Sir John Jones Jenkins.

Mr. George Armitstead.

Mr. Wentworth Cannang Blackett Beaumont.

Privy Councillors.

The following are made Privy Councillors.

Mr. Palmer of Messrs. Huntley and Palmer of Reading.

Commoner Robert Farquharson.

Sir J. T. Brunner.

Sir James Kitson.

Sir Francis Mowatt.

Sir Cecil Clement Smith.

Baronets.

Fourteen Baronets have been created including.

Mr. Felix Schaster.

Mr. Edgar Speyer.

Sir Walter Lawrence.

Knights.

Twenty-eight Knights have been created including.

Mr. John McLeavy Brown.

Mr. Curruthers Gourd.

Mr. Edward Almoth-Wright.

Grand Cross of the Bath.

Generals McQueen and Sir Julius Raines.

Knight Commanders of the Bath.

Generals Chapman, Searle, Anderson and Toker and Surgeon-General Donnelly.

Companions of the Bath.

Colonels Francis, Stevenson, Park, Lyons, Montgomery, Wetherall, Hamilton, Monteith, Grover, Conrey, Hamilton, Hastings, Phayre, Kellock, McKay and Bonham.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Panait Narayan Chandra Vidyanaina.

Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya

and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vixshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Fashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, July 7, 1906.

FAMINE IN EASTERN BENGAL.

INDIA verily is a land of wonders. Of all countries in the world, India has a race of people intellectually in no way inferior to any in the world, yet subject to foreign yoke for some seven centuries. Then, such a fertile country has become the permanent abode of famines. As such, it is truly a land of regrets. Once the fabled land of wealth, it has now become one of the poorest of countries.

While on famine, a rapid survey of famines may not be out of place. The late Mr. Digby in his much maligned "Prosperous British India" has given the following table of famines before the British occupation of India :

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|---|
| In the | 11th century | 2 famines, both local. |
| | 13th century | 1 famine around Delhi. |
| | 14th century | 3 famines, all local. |
| | 15th century | 2 famines, local. |
| | 17th century | 3 famines, general, area not defined. |
| | 18th century (down to 1745) | 4 famines, N. W. P. Delhi; Sind (twice); all local. |

Under British rule, there were four (or, if the cyclone damage be counted, five) famines in the last third of the 18th century. Mr. Digby states that, roughly speaking, famines and scarcities have been four times as numerous during the last 30 years of the 19th century, as they were 100 years earlier, and four times more wide-spread. The nineteenth century famines are divided into four periods :

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1st. Period-1800-25 | 5 Famines arose from wars. |
| 2nd. Period-1826-50 | 2 Famines of 1833, 1837. '33 famine led to the Godavari Irrigation works being begun. |
| 3rd. Period-1851-75 | 6 Famines, the Great Orissa famine. |
| 4th. Period 1876-1900 | 18 Famines—including the four most terrible famines ever known in India. Deaths estimated at 26,000,000. |

There were in the official reckoning, 18 famines in the last 25 years of the 19th century.

A great French scientist has said that famines are impossible in this age. He evidently referred to people and countries of his own nationality. India seems an exception to the rule; the history of British rule in India is a history of famines. Indeed, the "Material and Moral Condition Reports" of British India give no indication of such dire calamities. Warren Hastings wrote to the Court of Directors on the 3rd November 1772: "Notwithstanding the loss of at least one-third of the inhabitants of the province, and the consequent decrease of the cultivation, the nett collections of the year 1771 exceeded even those of 1768.....It was naturally to be expected that the diminution of the revenue should have kept an equal pace with the other consequences of so great a calamity. That it did not, was owing to its being violently kept up to its former standard." Mr. R. C. Dutt remarks on the above, in his Economic History of British India: "In the language of modern Indian administration this violently keeping up the land revenue would be described as the Recuperative Power of India!" Sir George Campbell reported in 1886 about famine—"the British authorities were early alive to the evil, and much

sympathised with it, but always with an overruling consideration for the revenue." This is humanity, indeed!

Government now find that famines have become a permanent institution in India. They are trying to devise means from time to time how best to combat them. This led to famine codes. Lord Lytton imposed a tax as a kind of Famine Insurance, which impost now swells the general revenue. Another Fund has been started with public charity in aid of the Government relief measures. The famine code and the famine trust are evidence of pauperisation of the people under British rule.

When we come to Bengal, the Orissa and Behar famines present striking difference of management by the two Viceroys and their Lieutenants.

Lord Lawrence and Sir Cecil Beadon could not cope with the Orissa famine of 1866. The Lieutenant-Governor during the severity of the distress was enjoying himself in his summer capital at Darjeeling. In the Behar famine of 1874, as if to drown the sad memory of the Orissa famine, there was a vast organisation of state relief. Lord Northbrook remained in Calcutta the whole of the famine year, and deputed a special officer, over the head of the Lieutenant Governor, for famine operations which were on a scale which the necessities of the hour did not warrant. We have had since then no famines in Bengal. The new Province formed out of it, commencing in convulsion, has fresh distress which is attendant on famine.

There is yet no official final declaration. That there is scarcity or distress is admitted. The Chief-Secretary's reply dated Shillong the 16th June, 1906, to the Secretary, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, says in the second paragraph that "in view of the increasing pressure orders have been issued for the opening of test works under Famine Code rules at places where there may be a demand for work." This admission is expected to be followed by official statements about the area of the afflicted parts and the number of persons relieved in any way. There is non-official public appeal for help, and money is being raised in old Bengal. There are also such reports of deaths from starvation. The "Hitaishini" (Faridpore) of the 15th Joishta gives names of persons who are dead and are on the point of death from starvation. Babu Aswini Kumar Dutt, Secretary, Barisal People's Association, in his two letters dated 15th June last and the other, not dated, published in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika," July 4, gives the following heart-rending cases:—Emaruddi, an inhabitant of Sarsi, near Lakutia, unable to satisfy the hunger of his famishing wife and children, killed them. A band of hungry men in another village murdered an old woman in order to take away a quantity of rice she had in store. A gentleman with his niece was going in a small boat. At dead of night, a band of men with deadly weapons captured the boat and demanded delivery of everything on pain of death. The gentleman had no alternative but to submit, but the men did not touch the ornaments on his niece. They said that starvation had led them to this extreme step. 15 persons from Mahispur, station Backerganj, have been committed to the court of sessions for robbery of rice. One Jamal, of

Kaliganj, after fasting for over two days, ran mad with hunger, suddenly attacked and severely wounded his wife, a son and a daughter who are now lying in hospital at Barisal. One Kailas Karmakar of Amrajuri and Abdul Fakir, of Gagan, station Jhalakatti, have committed suicide. Four deaths have been reported from Subilkhali, two from Lemukhali, one from Natai and one from Rayapur.

The National Chamber of Commerce has drawn the attention of the Government to the increase of theft and dacoities and of violence offered to traders and others, and Mr. P. C. Lyon admits them in his reply. The British Indian Association, the Indian Association, and the Bengal Landholders' Association have requested the Viceroy to take prompt action in the matter. The situation is grave, specially, when the people have no confidence in Sir B. Fuller who shows no regard for law or feeling. We fear it is idle to remind him that in the famine of 1868-69 in Budelkhand and upper Hindustan, "Lord Lawrence laid down the principle, for the first time in Indian history, that the officers of the Government would be held personally responsible for taking every possible means to avert death by starvation."

As to relief from relief works under the Famine Code, it is clear to all who know anything of the low lands of Bengal that during the rainy season large tracts are under water. The prescribed relief works will therefore be of no special help to the starving. Moreover, the people of the affected districts in East Bengal are well known for their independent livelihood. Scarcely do we find a domestic servant in Calcutta from East Bengal excepting in families of East Bengal. Now such people are the last to come to charitable institutions opened during famine times. The Government of Sir B. Fuller has yet to tell the public if the money at his disposal is sufficient to cope with the task of full relief. And it is not yet known how many purda ladies, children and self-respecting persons want help in a way that will be acceptable to them. The British Indian Association in its letter to Mr. H. H. Risley has suggested the drawing from the Famine fund. We are unfortunately yet in the dark as to the extent of the affected area and the number needing help. Mr. Baker on behalf of the Indian Government spoke at the last Calcutta Meeting of the Viceregal legislative Council of famine relief as resting on the Local Government, though its finances are handicapped by the contract and no separate allotment is made under the head of famine. Mr. Baker said: "If there were a big famine in any province, and the local Government were at liberty to pass on the entire bill to us, I shudder to think of the consequences to the finances of the Government of India." Regarding the position of the Local Government towards meeting the famine expenses, Mr. Baker said: "I will frankly admit that in my judgment the present system is really open to serious objection." Will he now take any steps, if needed, to remove the "undoubted anomaly" regarding Famine Relief either by the Provincial or Imperial Government, he so clearly explained?

When famine has actually occurred, it is the duty of the Government and the people to see that not a life is lost. Let Sir B. Fuller bear in mind the words of his Guru, Lord Cur-

zon, who said: "It is our task to keep the people alive, and to see them safely through the period of their sufferings." Also: "Our own back must be broad enough to bear the burden." Sir B. Fuller's loans are of very little help. They will be not very largely taken owing to stringent rules. "Let not the Government err, if they do err at all," said the late Viceroy, "on the side of severity." Lord Northbrook might be actuated by too much humanity, but Lord Curzon, who was anxious not to misspend a rupee, said truly that "Poor Law administration in every country in the world, in England itself, is still in an experimental stage: no country and no Government has hit the ideal mean between philanthropy and justice, between necessary relief and pauperisation." Let Lords Northbrook and Curzon be the guide of Sir B. Fuller's Famine administration, and then at the end of famine period the result will be a glorious record of his rule in Eastern Bengal and Assam.

DACCA.

THE selection of Dacca as the Capital of the New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, formed out of old Bengal, has revived public interest in that old capital of Bengal. The "Englishman" is the first in the field with a series of articles entitled "Echoes from Old Dacca" giving a succinct history of the city from its foundation to the present time. Then there is the announcement of a book, "The Romance of an Eastern Capital" by Mr. F. Bradley-Birt, I.C.S., said to be the Hunter of the present-day Indian Civil Service. The "Eastern Capital" is Dacca, and Mr. Bradley-Birt will describe "the vast land of river and plain, where Ganges and Brahmaputra meet, and the ancient city of Dacca in its midst."

S. H., the writer in the "Englishman" (April 26) says:

The etymology of Dacca—or, as the native pronunciation has it Dhaka—is wrapped in obscurity and has been variously ascribed to a tree called Dhak, and a temple of the goddess Durga named Dhakeswari. But these suggestions would seem to be purely traditional and therefore uncertain.

He quotes a version from Rahman Ali's Tarikh-i-Dhaka (MS.) as the probable one which ascribes the origin of Dacca to Islam Khan, the Moghul Governor of Bengal, who on account of the constant encroachment of the Afghans and Maghs was led to remove his capital from Rajmahal further towards the Eastern boundary of the Nizamut.

Shaikh Alauddin Islam Khan, the then Moghul Governor of the Province, came out in 1608 in a state-barge accompanied by a fleet of boats, in search of a site for his future capital. When the boat came opposite the place where the city now stands, the Governor found it to be a spot of great strategical importance, and accordingly chose it for his future capital. The boats were brought near the bank of the river and moored, and Islam Khan landed and inspected the site. The place where he landed is still called after him Islampur, and is an important quarter of the city. On his way back he met a party of Hindus performing their Puja with the accompaniment of music and dhaks (drums). An idea struck him. Calling the drummers together, he made them stand at a central place, and ordered them to beat the drums as hard as they could. At the same time he commanded three of his attendants to go, one to the east, another to the west, and the third to the north, each with a flagstaff, and plant it at the place where the sound of the drums would cease to be audible. This being done, he called the place Dhaka, from Dhak, a drum, and ordered boundary pillars to be erected at the places where the flagstaffs had been planted. These he fixed as the boundaries of the city to the north, the west, and the east, the river Buriganga forming the southern boundary. Here he fixed his capital.

Hunter in his Statistical Account of Bengal, vol.

V. Districts of Dacca, &c. 1875, says:

Dr. Taylor in his 'Topography and Statistics of Dacca' states that the word is supposed by some to be derived from Dhak, the name of a tree (*Butea frondosa*), while others refer its etymology to the goddess *Dhakeswari*—literally 'The Concealed Goddess'—a shrine in whose honour, erected by King Bullal Sen, still exists on the west of the town.

In the *Bhabisya-Brahmakhand*, however, it is written:

Here abides the dhakka-instrument loving Maha (great) Kali. Hence the people of the locality call this place Dhakka (*Dhaka-Dacca*).

Dhak, the tree, is otherwise known as Palas, *Khākhrā*, or *Palasa*, and *Kinsuka*. Of the natural order *Leguminosae*, it is a native of the mountainous districts of India and common all over Bengal. It has a most attractive appearance when in flower, the inflorescence

being of a bright scarlet colour and capable of yielding a fine yellow dye (*Tesu*) which may be intensified by boiling with dilute acid. The bark of this tree and that of *B. superna* furnish a very important exudation called the *Palas-gond*, *Chunia-gond* for Bengal Kino, very common in the bazars of India.

Another meaning of the word *Dhaka* or *Dhakia* is the instrument of that name—a big drum. *Dhaka* also means covered. It is, therefore, that '*Dhakeswari*' has been translated as '*The Concealed Goddess*.' The other account we have quoted makes the goddess as fond of that musical instrument. For one tree origin, we have two derivations from the Hindu goddess or from the drum. In the absence of any other, the drum origin—both Sanskrit and Persian—is to be accepted for the present.

The writer in the "Englishman" also gives some account of Meer Ashraf Ali who was the premier landholder of Eastern Bengal, and his family. Bishop Heber who visited Dacca in 1824 has left an account of his visit to the Meer in his journals from which is the following:

I went from the palace to the house of Meer Ashraf Ali, the chief Mussulman gentleman in this district. He is said by Mr. Master to have been both extravagant and unfortunate, and therefore to be now a good deal encumbered. But his landed property still amounts to above 300,000 bighas, and his family is one of the best (as a private family) in India.

To continue the "Englishman's" account:

The Meer was the premier nobleman of Eastern Bengal, and Nawab Nasrat Jung, the Naib Nazim, in his '*Tarikh-i-Nusrat Jungi*' (MS.) says that his monthly income was Rs. 20,000 and that 'there must be few men in the city who have not become the recipient of his favours or have turned away disappointed from him.' During the First Burmese War he rendered valuable services to Government by providing supplies to the British troops, and by proceeding in person to the frontiers of Tippera, accompanied by some thousands of his rayyets to aid the British authorities. The Government offered to pay him his expenses or to grant him some title or mark of distinction, but he declined both. The Government thereupon conferred on his two sons, Syud Ali Mehdy and Syud Mehdy Ali, *Khilats* and the title of *Khan Bahadur*. It may be mentioned that in those days this title was not what it has since become. Subsequently, at their request, they were granted the privilege of using silver sticks.

The writer in the *Englishman* appears to have missed the following facts in connection with the loss of the *Bulda Khal Pargana*, one of the most valuable properties of Meer Ashraf Ali, which we extract from a letter in the *Sumachar Durpun* of the 5th July 1834. The *Durpun* was an Anglo-Bengali paper, started by the famous Serampore Missionaries, and one of the earliest journals published in Bengal.

The Editor of the *Durpun* further says, that no purchasers having appeared at the former sales, there was an order issued to purchase it (the *Bulda Khal Pargana*) for a single rupee on the part of the Government; but this is all fudge. That any order

was given to purchase so enormous an estate for one rupee, is out of the question. Government is anxious that the estate of *Bulda Khal* should be improved. When the British Government were engaged in the Rangoon war, Meer Ashraf Ali Khan, the father of Mehdy Ali Khan, made great exertions to supply the troops with provisions and procured food for them all the way from his own estate to Chittagong, save while they were passing through the estates of other *Zamindars*. As a reward for which Government bestowed on him a *kholat* of seven *parchas*, a pearl necklace, a *jogah* (*choga*) and *surposh*, a sword and shield, and silver sticks, and the drum, and invested him with the title of *Khan Bahadur*. When the Treasurer of the Collector had purloined money from the Treasury, although two other securities of his existed, yet Government demanded and received from Ashraf Ali Khan the sum of a lakh and a half of rupees, and this sum he paid without any discussion or objection.

The sum of 1,15,000 Rs. for which this estate was sold is extremely inadequate; which will appear evident from the fact that a half-anna share of it has been sold for Rs. 50,000. At the lowest it ought to fetch eight lakhs.

Even in more recent times, when another member of the same family, lost most of his property and it passed to other hands, the tenants continued to consider him their *zamindar* and brought money to him to Calcutta where he had settled. The family is still the first in point of respectability, and the present Nawab of Dacca, as did his father and grandfather, treats the members of that family as the highest in the Dacca district. The old Bengal Government has been known to patronize certain modern Mussulman families where such patronage has been hardly deserved. The new Government of Bengal would do justice to this old first family in Dacca by securing a literary pension to the Persian poet Moulvi Syed Mahmood, Azad, who, we believe, is the eldest living member of the family. He composed the *Kasida* to welcome Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Bengal, which was presented on behalf of the Mahomedans of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam.

WELLINGTON SQUARE.

At the special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, on Wednesday, the 4th July, the Hon'ble Mr. C. G. H. Allen, the Chairman of the Corporation, made the following announcement:

Before the business of the meeting commenced the Chairman said that he had an announcement to make to the Corporation. There had been a great deal of discussion both at the Municipal meeting and elsewhere with regard to the condition of filtered-water reservoir in Wellington Square; and it had been reported that there was percolation in the reservoir of matters which came from outside. The Chief Engineer and the Health Officer apprised the Chairman after more than one inspection of the interior of the reservoir that the present position of the reservoir was in danger of the health of the town. The reason was that the public had free access to the Square. Some persons, suffering from cholera or dysentery, might vomit over the reservoir; and there was strong possibility that some dangerous impurity might percolate and pollute the filtered water. The Chairman, therefore, decided under Sec. 15 that as there was a possibility of the danger of public health the Square should be closed temporarily until further measures were taken.—The "*Bengalee*," July 5.

The section of the Municipal Act, referred to by the Chairman as his authority for the exclusion of the public from the Square, is worded thus:

15the entire executive power for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act shall vest in the Chairman, who shall also—

(c) On the occurrence or the threatened occurrence of any sudden accident or unforeseen event involving, or likely to involve, extensive damage to any property of the Corporation or danger to human life, take such immediate action as the emergency shall appear to him to justify or to require, reporting forthwith to the General Committee, and to the Corporation, when he has done so, the action he has taken, and his reasons for taking the same, and the amount of cost, if any, incurred, or likely to be incurred, in consequence of such action, when such cost is not covered by a current budget-grant.

The Chairman may have been advised to apply the section for a purpose to which no exception can be taken, law or no law. But is the section applicable? Is there occurrence or threatened occurrence of any unforeseen event involving, or likely to involve danger to human life? The Chairman's action, if any evidence, is proof that dangerous contamination, by percolation of deleterious matter, of the underground filtered water in Wellington Square, has commenced or is apprehended. The public notice published in the morning papers is :

Corporation of Calcutta. It is hereby notified for general information that as there is great risk of any impurity which may be deposited on the surface being washed into the reservoir through the interstices in the roof, during the present rainy season, Wellington Square is closed against the public until further orders, on sanitary grounds.

P. N. Moekerjee,
Offg. Secretary to the Corporation.

Municipal Office,
Calcutta, 5th July, 1906.

That put up in the Square at the entrance on the four sides, is more laconic :

Closed against Public,
By Order,
S. C. Mitter,
D. E. II,

Dated Calcutta, 3rd July 1906.

From the morning of Thursday, the 5th July 1906, the Square is given over to the crow and the police, to keep it free of impurities that the buried water may be preserved unsullied.

If it be a move towards raised reservoirs, is section 15 sufficient power to the Chairman, to himself order the cost thereof?

The Square was closed to the public when the tank was converted into the under-ground reservoir. Now, again, the Square is closed to them to protect the reservoir.

Once the Municipal Chairman was for utilising the Square as a fish market. The present Chairman prefers the crow to the fish.

The municipal Secretary's notice speaks of fissures in the roof of the reservoir. Are there any, on the sides? Is there any danger to the reservoir from the masonry sewers on the two sides of the Square? Are exhalations from these sewers less harmful to the water than human exhalations? Are there cracks in only the Wellington Square reservoir? How have they been caused?

The section quoted may be an authority to the Chairman as regards the Corporation. But can he under it deprive the public of their right? How is his order to be enforced? The Municipal Act does not give any such power. The Commissioner of Police is not to enforce any order made by the Municipal Chairman. The Bengal municipal law is complete by itself. It does not, like the Epidemic Diseases Act, rely on the Indian Penal Code for enforcement of orders under the Act. It will be no small danger to the Calcutta residents if orders like the present of the Municipal Chairman are interpreted as orders under the Epidemic Diseases Act or enforceable by the Indian Penal Code. The Chairman is one of the fifty-one persons forming the Corporation and one of the three Municipal authorities charged with carrying out the provisions of the Municipal law. An order made by the Chairman alone, in exercise of the powers vested in him by the Act, is the act of the Corporation. As a covenanted servant of the King, or as a Municipal Commissioner, he may be a public servant. But, as representing the Corporation or its controlling authorities, he is not a public servant within the meaning of the definition of such person in the Indian Penal Code, and his order is not the order of a public servant, disobedience of which is punishable under that Code. The order of exclusion, to be valid, must be made by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, on the application of the Chairman. When he makes the order, the Police is empowered to keep out the public. In guarding the Square against the public, the Commissioner of Police commits, equally with the Chairman of the Corporation, a

wrong or an illegality. If there be any Government order on the subject, Government should have been better advised. To allay all apprehension and irritation, it seems to us, the order should first proceed from the Chief Presidency Magistrate, and then, if need be, repeated by the Local Government. There is still an easier way. The Local Government has, indeed, informed the Bengal Chamber of Commerce that the Municipal Magistrate on leave, who is acting as Municipal Secretary "has vacated the appointment of Municipal Magistrate for good and that he will not return to that appointment." He is, we believe, still a Presidency Magistrate, being so made when he was appointed Municipal Magistrate, which appointment he still holds, not having given it up. If especially empowered on that behalf by the Local Government, he will, we believe, be competent to issue legally or to all legal appearance, the order which he has, as Municipal Secretary, published in that notification, he seems to make the order himself, or identify himself with the Chairman, for he mentions no authority for the same.

The matter, both for the strong action taken and for the purpose for which it is said to have been taken, is a serious one. And all concerned should be properly advised and not be led astray or kept in the dark.

THERE is reactionary rest in the Government of India after the speed of the Curzon rule. That quiet or inaction is visible in every direction. The unrest in the Eastern Province is allowed to take its own course. To slacken India Government's activity, the Press Room is being utilized to do away with direct communication to the press. The Bengal Government having also a Press Room of its own, it is also in no hurry in communicating India's Press communiques to the Bengal Press. Mr. Gajendra Nath De, Head Assistant, Chief Secretary's Office on tour, posted on the 4th July, under Memo. No. 1412 T. R. dated Darjeeling, 3rd July, the following Press Communiqué, dated Simla, the 19th June, from the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture — Agriculture :

"Arrangements have been completed by the India Office for the early despatch to Calcutta of ten tons of Russian and Belgian flax seed, of the best quality obtainable, for experimental cultivation in India.

The Director of Agriculture, Bengal, will arrange with the Inspector General of Agriculture in India for the distribution of the seed, on favourable terms, to planters and others who may desire to take part in the experimental cultivation of flax.

(Sd.) L. Robertson,
Under-Secretary."

THE 7 honours of Knighthood conferred by the Prince of Wales while in India, were not Gazetted with the approval of the Sovereign, the fountain of all honour, till the 15th May in the London Gazette and the 8th June in the Gazette of India.

The same honour in celebration of the sovereign's birthday numbers two. These and other honours conferred by the King-Emperor and his Viceroy to mark the imperial birth-day, November 9, were Gazetted in India on the 29th June. New Year's Day, which is also the day, in India, of the assumption of the Imperial Title, and the Birth-day of the sovereign are the two fixed occasions for honours. Her late Majesty Victoria being born on the 24th May, the two sets of honours fell half-yearly. To continue that equal division of time, the birth-day of the present sovereign is celebrated in the middle of the year. This accounts for the June honours, late or early.

THE present honours number :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| C. S. I. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| K. C. I. E. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| C. I. E. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Kt. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Raja | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Mahamahopadhyaya | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Diwan Bahadur | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Khan Bahadur | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Rai Bahadur | 10 |
| Rao Bahadur | 9 |
| Sardar Bahadur | 4 |
| Khan Sahib | 8 |
| Rai Sahib | 9 |
| Rao Sahib | 2 |
| K. J. S. Y. M. | 2 |
| A. T. Y. M. | 1 |
| K. I. H. Gold | 3 |
| K. I. H. Silver | 4 |

Of these 79, Old Bengal's share is :

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| C. S. I. | 1 |
| C. I. E. | 3 |
| Knight | 2 |
| Gold K. I. H. Medal | 1 |
| Silver K. I. H. Medal | 1 |

The Indian titles are :

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Raja | 1 |
| Rai Bahadur | 4 |
| Khan Sahib | 1 |
| Rai Sahib | 1 |

Of the seven honours conferred by the Sovereign on Bengal, only one has gone to a Native of India.

His Majesty the King-Emperor of India has conferred the honour of knighthood on the Hon'ble Mr. Chunder Madhub Ghose, Acting Chief Justice of Bengal.

The announcement has been received with the liveliest satisfaction, and has given the greatest gratification, throughout Bengal, not only to Indians, Hindus and Mahomedans alike, but also to all Europeans in the Province.

No Bengali is better known, or more popular with all classes of the community, than Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose. He has been before the eye of the public for over twenty-one years, from January 1885, when he took his seat as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal. And we only voice the universal opinion when we say that, as a Judge, Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose possesses the confidence of the public completely. He is a patient, hard-working, independent and upright Judge. Can there be greater praise than this? His judgments are lucid, comprehensive and instructive. They also give satisfaction to the litigating parties, who feel that substantial justice has been meted out to them. His courtesy and consideration to Counsel and Vakeels are proverbial. In twenty-one years there has not been a single complaint of rough treatment at the hands of Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose. That is a record. His kindness and helpfulness to the younger Pleaders are unvarying. He is the friend of the Subordinate Judicial Service.

Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose has shown that a Bengali possesses, in the highest degree, those very virtues which it is still the fashion for the vulgar to deny to the Bengali Nation—Integrity, Sincerity, Independence.

This eminent son of India recalls, strikingly, by his character, the great Roman Emperor, Marcus Aurelius, and, like that "noblest of Pagans," Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose embodies in his person, as far as an individual can do so, the "highest and most representative impersonation," of his Nation and Race. "The Roman thought of duty, as expressed in *virtus*, manliness; the Roman instinct of Law, and the Roman sense of religion, binding, omnipresent"—characterise this eminent Hindu as they did the great Roman. "The self-repression and austerity of type, the subjection of the individual to the whole, the subordination of impulse and affection to the demands of moral obligation, the doggedness of the virtues exercised,"—these are as characteristic of the eminent Hindu Chief Justice as they were of the Roman Emperor. His consideration, candour, modesty, courtesy, tact and address have won for him the esteem of the whole country.

As we have said, the sovereign is the fountain of all honours, great or small. How, then, comes the Viceroy and Governor-General of India to assume the prerogative of his master to confer titles? Even when the Company were the rulers, it was doubted whether the Governor-General could grant any titles, for their coin bore no name or device of their own. Since the transfer, there

can be no possible doubt that the Governor-General or the Viceroy, though holding the highest position in India, is no higher than a subject of the King of England and Emperor of India, and that no honours, strictly speaking, can be at his disposal. In India, he may be superior to the Prince of Wales or any member of the royal family, but that higher position does not raise him to the authority he exercises as the dispenser of honours. However high he may be considered or feel himself, he must always be, though representing His Majesty, next to and subordinate to the Emperor. He can never be the Emperor and no honours can emanate from him. In the conferment of Indian titles, he announces his own pleasure and not that of his august master. The Honours conferred by the Prince of Wales while in India, had to be gazetted with the approval of His Majesty, His Royal Highness's condescension to hand over to its double lucky recipient a title granted by the Viceroy is no proper confirmation of the power exercised by the Viceroy in the matter of titles.

THE highest title conferred by the Viceroy on the present occasion in Bengal is the Rajaship for Kumar Gopendra Krishna, the eldest surviving son of the late Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna, of the Sovabazar Raj family. He is described in the Gazette as "Gopendra Krishna Deb, M.A., B.L., late a District and Sessions Judge in Bengal." If the distinction be any reward for his service under Government, it is not a fitting recognition. Rajaship for retired Government servants, is not in the right way. A Government servant as pensioner, with reduced income, is less able to maintain the dignity of a Raja than when in service. When in the service Gopendra Krishna was known as Kumar, for he had preferred not to be "Esquire." To mention him only by his name, when making him a Raja, the Foreign Department ignores all his claims derivable from his birth or his historic family. It denies him even any title of courtesy. Notwithstanding that slight, his Rajaship is a recognition of the status of his family. Good and noble like his father, he is deserving of all the honours conferred on the deceased. The deceased Maharaja had been in the service of Government as a Deputy Magistrate for about 9 years. The son was accepted by Government as a statutory Civilian, and he closed his service as District and Sessions Judge. Retired from the service, and not on the death of his father, he begins as a Raja.

ON the 10th October, 1905, Major C. G. Parsons, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate at Delhi, made, in the matter of Pandit Kashi Prasad, Brahman, of Bara Banki, then of Delhi, a Swadeshi preacher, the following order :

I had this man Kashi Pershad taken into custody on the 3rd instant (admitted to bail on the 6th instant) while I considered whether a bond should be taken from him or not (under Section 118, Criminal Procedure Code) in order to make him close his tour of lecturing or of delivering speeches calculated to disturb the public tranquility which is, of course, his definite object and of his supporters.

He is probably a paid agent of the agitators, who for reasons of their own are at this moment avowedly trying to disturb public tranquility. After considering and taking advice in the matter I have decided not to make an order under Section 112 and have decided to discharge the man which I accordingly do with a warning.

The Pandit then applied to the Panjab Chief Court :

That the District Magistrate has acted without jurisdiction and illegally in making without any justification and in the absence of evidence, remarks very harmful to the petitioner in his order of discharge which it is prayed may be ordered to be expunged from the judgment.

At a preliminary hearing, on the 11th June, 1906, Mr. Justice Chatterjee ordered that the records of the case be sent for.

THE 10th ordinary meeting of the Savitri Library Swadharma Sadhan Samiti will be held at its own premises at 18-4, Akur Dutt's Lane, Rowbazar, on Sunday, the 8th July, at 7 P.M., when, in the absence of Pandit Tarak Chandra Shankhyasagar, on account of indisposition, Pandit Sitichandra Bidyarnab will deliver a lecture on "Darsan and Darsan." The meeting is open to the public and all are welcome.

WE read :

World's Wealthiest Woman.—Fraulein Bertha Krupp, the world's wealthiest woman, has decided to marry a penniless young nobleman who occupies an extremely insignificant diplomatic post as Secretary of Legation at the Prussian Legation to the Vatican. The lucky suitor, Gustavus von Bohlen-Halaso, comes of a blue blooded aristocratic family tracing its descent back to the twelfth century, but otherwise would be regarded as an undesirable partner for the heiress.

Hundreds of suitors have been candidates for Fraulein Krupp's hand. They included princes, dukes, innumerable noblemen, millionaires, geniuses and so forth, but Fraulein Krupp refused them all, and insisted on choosing a husband according to the dictates of her heart. Her mother, relatives, and guardians were at first opposed to the match, but Fraulein Krupp remained firm, and finally had her own way. She is the sole owner of the world-renowned Krupp Works at Essen, which supply nearly all the armies and navies on earth with artillery. Her workmen number 40,000, and with their families made over 300,000 people dependent on her. The entire city of Essen with a quarter of a million inhabitants is her property. Her income is stated to be £1,000,000 a year.

London, June 27. The trial of villagers who assaulted British Officers at Tanteh in Egypt has been concluded. Four have been sentenced to death, four to penal servitude for life, twelve to various terms of imprisonment and a number of them to fifty lashes each. Thirty-one have been acquitted. The executions and floggings will be carried out simultaneously to-morrow in the fields where the assaults were committed. The hangings will be successive on one gallows in presence of the officials, British soldiers, press, and villagers.

In the Commons Mr. Dillon asked Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to respite the Egyptian executions to enable Sir E. Grey to personally investigate. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman advocated trusting to Lord Cromer's humanity and discretion.

London, July 5. Sir E. Grey replying to a question in the Commons regarding the trial at Dinshawi of prisoners connected with the Tantah outrage, said that the Court had full discretion relative to the punishment to be inflicted, and Lord Cromer had informed him that no European in Egypt was more popular with Egyptians or of higher character than Mr. Macchell.

July 5th, 10 p.m. In the Commons to-night Sir E. Grey begged the House not to pass hasty judgment on the Egyptian executions and not to embark on the discussion of so serious a subject at present. He emphasized the newspaper reports of the executions as being inaccurate and deprecated unfairness to the Egyptian officials, whom he eulogized. "But there is a more serious ground. All this year fanaticism in Egypt has been increasing and is not confined to Egypt but is spreading in North Africa. The recent attack on British officers would never have occurred a little while ago and since the attack other significant attacks have been made on Europeans."

We may be on the eve of further measures necessary to protect Europeans in Egypt, and if the House of Commons at this moment weakens or destroys the authority of the Egyptian Government you will be face to face with a most serious situation, because if fanaticism in Egypt overcomes the authority of the Egyptian Government, extreme measures will be necessary, and we may be forced at any moment to take unconstitutional measures, which we are bound to take in an emergency." Lord Cromer was present in the Commons during Sir Edward Grey's speech.

PROF. VAMBERY ON MAHOMEDANS UNDER BRITISH RULE.

Moulvi A. F. M. Abdul Ali, M.A., son of our late distinguished townsman, Nawab Bahadur Abdool Lutef, C.I.E., and Editor "Journal of the Moslem Institute," has received the following letter from Prof. Vambery :—

"Budapest University,
June 12th, 1906.

Dear Sir,—Your letter gave me great pleasure since it recalled to my memory the time when I was in correspondence with your high-minded, kind-hearted and patriotic father, for whom I shall retain always a feeling of high esteem and veneration. Not less is my pleasure in seeing that he has left a son worthy of his father, who steps in his footsteps and continues the work so ably begun by the deceased. "Rahmat ullah'alaike" (on whom be the blessing of God).

I congratulate you on the formation of the literary and social association of the younger members of the Mohamedan community, which comes very appropriately at a time when certain movements are afoot, which may deteriorate your condition instead of ameliorating it. I mean the importance shown by Mohamedans in India to international politics, which may arouse suspicion and counter measures detrimental to the progress on the path of modern civilisation. For the present you have plenty to do to make up for the lost time and to join the steadily advancing

mankind in the great task of moral and material well-being. To obtain this goal of desire the direction and leadership of the English is decidedly the best mean and the most efficient instrument, for comparing England's method of governing and civilising the people subjected to her rule with that of Russia, France and Holland, I can assure you your fate is decidedly more bearable and more conducive to a happy future than that of your co-religionists governed by other European Powers, nay even more promising than the fate awaiting the politically independent Turks, Persians, and Arabs. You must not fancy that I am blind to the occasional mistakes and blunderings of the English for "al insan murakkabumin al nisyān" (to err is human), but in matters of fair play, of tolerance justice and truthfulness no European stands as high as your present ruler.

It is for this reason that I say—Be cautious! Take care against premature and eventually disastrous steps as those which your brethren in Bengal and Aligarh have recently taken in connection with England's policy in Egypt, Macedonia and other places—for these steps will not help the Sultan of Turkey and will do harm to your own interests.

I do not mind in what sense this opinion of mine is construed. I am what I was a sincere friend to Islam and my pen is agitated by the same spirit which led the doings of your great father.

Many thanks for the copy of your "Journal," which is full of interesting topics and to which I am sending a contribution if the occasion offer itself.—Believe me, dear Sir, yours very truly,

(Sd). A. VAMBERY."

THE MUNICIPAL MAGISTRATE-SECRETARY.

No. 1269—T. M., dated Darjiling, the 23rd June, 1906.

From—The Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal Municipal Department, Municipal Branch.

To—The Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1098-1906, dated 18th June, 1906, in which you state that the attention of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has been drawn to certain remarks made from the Bench by the Hon. Mr. Justice Saroda Charan Mitter in connection with the recent appointment by the Corporation of Mr. P. N. Mukerji as Officiating Secretary to the Corporation during the absence of Mr. F. Gainsford. The Committee of the Chamber consider that the appointment of the Municipal Magistrate as officiating Secretary to the Corporation is one that is much to be deprecated, and they submit that Mr. Mukerji should have been debarred, as the Municipal Magistrate, from applying for the office of the Secretary. They now urge that the services of Mr. Mukerji should not be lent to the Corporation for the post of Officiating Secretary and request that if permission has been given to Mr. Mukerji to apply, it should be immediately revoked.

2. In reply, I am to say that Mr. Mukerji, who has been on leave, has vacated the appointment of Municipal Magistrate for good and that he will not return to that appointment. In these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor sees no objection to his officiating as Secretary to the Corporation, and he is not prepared to interfere with the discretion which the Municipal Commissioners have exercised in the matter. His Honour is unable to share the apprehensions of the Chamber or to accept the view that Mr. Mukerji's appointment to the post of Secretary to the Corporation is in any degree likely to influence the course of justice in the Court of the Municipal Magistrate.

No. 1168—1906, dated Calcutta, the 28th June, 1906.

From—The Secretary Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department Darjiling.

I am directed by the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1269 T.M., of 23rd June, replying to my letter No. 1098 of 18th June, dealing with the appointment by the Corporation of Mr. P. N. Mukerji, Municipal Magistrate as Officiating Secretary to the Corporation during the absence of Mr. F. Gainsford which the Committee considered was much to be deprecated for reasons given in the letter.

2. At the time of writing the letter the Committee were not aware that Mr. Mukerji had permanently vacated the appointment of Municipal Magistrate, and if this was the case they do not think that the fact was generally known. It is not clear, however, from your letter whether Mr. Mukerji's resignation of the post had actually taken place before he applied for the appointment of Officiating Secretary. Presumably, however, this was not the case and the Committee would respectfully submit that in the consideration of their letter His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has missed the point emphasised in Paragraph 2, which the Committee desired to make in connection with such appointments as the one now under reference. They would again venture to

submit that if the holder of the judicial office of Municipal Magistrate, who presides in a Court where the Corporation are the only prosecutors, is to be considered eligible for an executive appointment, drawing higher pay in the service of the Corporation the independence of any holder of that office is most seriously compromised.

3. The question as to whether, in the event of such appointment, the Magistrate will or will not return to his original post appears to the Committee to be somewhat beside the mark. The Committee note, however, that His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor or is not prepared to interfere with the discretion which the Municipal Commissioners have exercised in this matter, and that he is unable to share the apprehensions of the Chamber in regard to it. They venture, however, to express the hope that such measures will be taken by Government as will prevent the recurrence of any similar appointment.

CONTEMPT OF COURT.

At the High Court, on July 2, before Justices Mitter and Holmwood, the rule obtained on behalf of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee calling upon Mr. Emerson, District Magistrate of Backergunge, to show cause why his order convicting the petitioner under section 480 of the Criminal Procedure Code of contempt of Court and sentencing him to pay a fine of Rs. 200 or in default a week's imprisonment, should not be set aside, came on for hearing.

Mr. Jackson, Mr. K. N. Chaudhuri and Babu Narendra Kumar Bose appeared in support of the rule. Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, represented the Crown.

Mr. White read the grounds on which the rule was granted. The grounds were detailed in the petition which has appeared in these columns. Referring to the judgment of the lower Appellate Court, counsel said the Sessions Judge came to the conclusion that no illegality was committed but that there were irregularities.

Mitter, J. : What is the distinction between an illegality and an irregularity ?

Mr. White : Where the direction of law is complied with in substance that amounts to an irregularity, but where there is a distinct disregard of the direction of law it is an illegality.

Mitter, J. : Is there any case in the books—any reported case either here or in England—in which an accused person, who is not defended by counsel or not given an opportunity to defend himself has been convicted of contempt of Court merely for disturbing the Court while writing its judgment ?

Mr. White : There is one case in L. R. 2 Privy Council, 106. That is Pallard's case from Hongkong.

Mitter, J. : He was not an accused person, but a counsel. Is there any case of an accused person, who was not given an opportunity of defending himself, fined for contempt of Court simply because he said something.

Mr. White : I do not know of any such case.

Continuing Mr. White said, that section 481 itself was a very summary procedure. Under that section an accused might be sentenced then and there. Counsel cited a case in 1 L.R., 11 Allahabad, 361, in which the Magistrate did not pass sentence the day the contempt of Court was committed, but postponed the case until another day and then passed sentence. The High Court held that it was an irregularity but not an illegality and refused to interfere and held that the intention of the law under section 481 was to deal with the accused summarily there and then and not to postpone the matter at all. Counsel then went on to say that the proceeding under section 481 was a special one. It did not even indicate that the Court should call upon the accused to make a statement. In this case the petitioner was asked to apologise and was given an opportunity of making a statement.

Mitter, J. :—But what were the words he used ? You must satisfy the Appellate Court or this Court as to what were the exact words used, as to what the petitioner before us did so as to be guilty of contempt of Court.

Mr. White : That is sufficiently explained in the order itself. Your lordships will remember that the petitioner is a very highly educated gentleman and full of understanding.

Mitter, J. : That is no reason.

Mr. White : In the order itself it will be seen that sufficient notice was given to the accused as to what was committed. Here is the order :—" Babu S. N. Banerjee produced before me as a prisoner arrested in the course of an affray with the police was repeatedly ordered by me to keep silence, while I was passing orders in his case after the case was decided. As he disobeyed I ordered him under section 480 Cr. P. C. to pay under section 288 I.P.C. a fine of Rs. 200 or in default to go to jail for one week." That shows the stage of the proceeding. There was a judicial proceeding. There was a proceeding going on and while he was writing

his order in that proceeding the petitioner frequently interrupted and was directed to keep silence and then it appears he disobeyed that order. The order is very explicit.

Mitter, J. : He talked in the same way as counsel talk here, in his explanation the Magistrate said he could not exactly remember the subject matter of interruption. We must know what was the nature of the interruption.

Mr. White : I can only go on with the order as it stands.

Holmwood, J. : I think he was delivering judgment.

Mr. White : He was writing the judgment. The affidavit sets out what took place according to the recollection of the petitioner and the explanation sets out what took place according to the recollection of the Magistrate. I take it your lordships are not sitting here as an original court and what your lordships have to deal with is this order.

Mitter, J. : We are dealing with the order as an Appellate Court. Supposing the order of the Magistrate was before us and nothing else—no affidavit on either side, no grounds of appeal, but simply the order itself and the record of the contempt case—will it be possible for us to deal with the case ?

Mr. White : If your lordships wish to deal with it that is another matter. It has been held in this Court that an explanation cannot supplement the judgment and I take it that an affidavit cannot supplement the judgment. In the explanation and affidavit both parties have stated the facts of the case. The argument of the other side is that inasmuch as the provisions of the section have not been followed it is an illegality and not an irregularity. The question is whether there is illegality or irregularity.

Mitter, J. : Where is the line of demarcation ?

Mr. White : When the provision of law is complied with in substance as to not to cause miscarriage of justice that is irregularity, but if it is totally ignored that is illegality.

Mitter, J. :—But here the irregularity is so great that it amounts to illegality.

Mr. White : Looking into this order there has not been any great miscarriage of justice. In the judgment it appears that Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee wanted to sit on a broken chair. I do not know whether a great public man ever condescended to sit on a broken chair—It is beyond my comprehension.

Mr. Jackson : There is some misapprehension on this point. We used the word "rattan" and Government in its brief converted it into "rotten."

Mitter, J. : But that is not the subject matter for our consideration. The Magistrate was then writing his judgment and the accused might have been asked to sit outside the room.

Mr. White : He was brought a prisoner and was asked to stand.

Mitter, J. : You are bringing in matters with which we are not at all concerned.

Mr. White : I only wish to deal with the order and nothing more. If your lordships so desire I can read the affidavit and the explanation.

Mitter, J. : We do not desire you to do anything.

Mr. White : Then I have the pleasure of sitting down.

Mitter, J. : You have the option to read any order, or affidavit, any argument.

Mr. White : That is all any argument my lord.

Addressing Mr. Jackson, Mr. Justice Mitter said they did not wish to hear him and would deliver a written judgment.

Mr. Jackson : I only wish to draw your lordships' attention particularly to one or two points. In the order the words "as he disobeyed" were added three days after. The order was passed on the 14th and these words were added on the 17th. There is not even the smallest suggestion that the petitioner did anything. After the appeal is dismissed the judge says this :—"It may perhaps be further observed though this is not the matter out of which these contempt proceedings immediately arise, that there can be little doubt that the accused's behaviour to the Court was disrespectful and insolent from the beginning." Where does the Judge get it from that his behaviour was disrespectful and insolent? Private communication with somebody else ? How can he after dismissing an appeal proceed to add this to the judgment ? I ask your lordships' attention to it and hope you will express an opinion on it. There is little doubt that it was made simply to make a case against Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee without giving him an opportunity to refute it.

Referring to the chair incident Mr. Jackson pointed out that in the petition the word "rattan" was used and in the Government brief it was converted into "rotten."

Mr. White : Whether rattan or rotten the petitioner was very fatigued and wanted a chair.

Mitter, J. : Most likely. If that was so it was sufficient cause for taking his seat.

Their lordships reserved the judgment:—The "Englishman," July 3.

Corporation of Calcutta.

LOAN NOTIFICATION.

THE Corporation of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council given under Section 128 of Act III (B. C.) of 1899, to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 10,00,000 (ten lakhs on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899.

2. The debentures will have a currency of (30) thirty years from the 1st September 1906, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum payable on the 1st of March and on the 1st of September each year.

3. The form of the debentures will be that given in the Sixth Schedule of Act III (B.C.) of 1899.

4. No debentures will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount debentures will be issued only for multiples of Rs. 100.

5. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above loan of Rs. 10,00,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation, up to noon on Saturday, the 14th July 1906.

6. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover, addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed—"Tender for Municipal Loan of 1906-07."

7. Each tender must be accompanied by an earnest-deposit in Government promissory notes, Calcutta Municipal Debentures, currency-notes or cheques, for not less than 3 per cent. of the amount tendered.

8. When a tender is accepted, the earnest-deposit, when made in currency notes or cheques, will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum from the date of acceptance of the tender, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the amount of the earnest-deposit so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid, but debentures may be issued for each instalment paid in full, the earnest deposit not being included in any but the last instalment.

9. The earnest-deposits on tenders which may not be accepted will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made is not taken up, or the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed, the earnest-deposit shall be forfeited.

10. The rate at which a tender is made must be specified in Rupees or Rupees and annas; but not in any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna. A tender in which the rate is not specified in Rupees or Rupees and annas will be rejected as null and void.

11. The whole amount of each allotment will be divided into three equal instalments as follows, payable into the Bank of Bengal :—

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|------------------|--------------|
| Instalment I—As near as possible to $\frac{1}{3}$ payable on 30th | | | | |
| | | | July | 1906. |
| Do. | II | ditto | $\frac{1}{3}$ do | on 13th |
| | | | | August 1906. |
| Do | III | ditto | $\frac{1}{3}$ do | 27th |
| | | | | August 1906. |

(Earnest deposit is taken into account, if in Currency-notes or Cheque only in connection with the 3rd instalment).

(N. B.—The words "as near as possible" are used in this paragraph for the purpose of making each instalment an exact multiple of Rs. 100 for debentures in excess of Rs. 500).

12. Parties whose tenders are accepted will have the option of paying all or any of the instalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

13. Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal to the 31st August 1906.

14. In the case of two or more tenders at the same lowest rate accepted, a *pro rata* allotment will be made, but no such allotment will be issued if the amount thus allotable on any tender is less than Rs. 500.

15. A minimum having been previously fixed, tenders will be opened by the Finance Special Committee of the Corporation, at 12 noon on Saturday, the 14th July 1906 at the Municipal Office.

FRED. GAINSFORD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE:

Calcutta, 19th June, 1906.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs. _____ of the municipal four (4) per cent. Debenture Loan for 1906-07 and agree to pay for the same at the rate of Rupees _____ annas _____ for every Hundred Rupees allotted to me, subject to the conditions stated in the Notification.

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(Signed) _____

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Bingham Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and therefore a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corfi K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chandra Mookerjee, the well-known Bengali journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its pioneer days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression on Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservatism of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or sitting after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate, plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

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Caroline Aitken, had a four anna share, and the remaining two annas to the Rusbridgers, who were represented by William Wavell, the sole surviving trustee of the marriage settlement of Stewart Holcomer Rusbridger and his wife (then Gertrude Maria Glover.) The deceased testator carried on the business of the "Englishman" under a sort of partnership though there was no partnership. They left every thing to him and he did what he thought best but now that he was dead legal difficulties arose in carrying on the business, by his will Mr. Saunders left his widow two annas (out of the to annas that he owned) absolutely. Then he disposed of what he called one undivided share of four annas, which he gave as life interest to his widow and the remaining four annas to his son M. J. O'B. Saunders, and his daughter Edna Catherine Saunders. The four annas given as life interest was to come back and fall into the residue of the estate and be dealt with in accordance with the terms of a former marriage settlement. It turned out however that there was nothing about it in this settlement and this was the point where the whole of the difficulty arose for as regards the remainder, the will made provision for the deposit of those shares.

As the situation had become very difficult and no body knew who was responsible for the liabilities it had been agreed by all the parties interested namely Annie Rue Saunders, Ada Caroline Aitken, F. H. Eggar W. Wavell, S. H. Rusbridger, Gertrude May Rusbridger, and Gladys May Rusbridger, that the Englishman should be converted into a joint-stock concern and an additional capital of Rs. 45,000 brought into it.

The Capital should be, 2,25,000 divided into 450 six per cent preference shares of Rs. 100 each, and 1800 ordinary shares of 100 each, that an agreement shall be entered into for the sale of the business subject to the sanction of this court to the New Company, that the consideration for the sale shall be Rs. 180,000 and the undertaking by the company of all the liabilities of the "Englishman" as from 1st January 1906, that the Rs. 180,000 shall be satisfied by the allotment of 1800 fully paid up ordinary shares of Rs. 100 each to the persons now interested in the business in the proportions of their present holdings, that is to say 250 shares to Mrs. Saunders in her individual capacity and 900 shares in her capacity as trustee 450 shares to Mrs. Aitken, and 250 shares to William Wavell, the 4500 preference shares being issued to provide further capital. There were two minors, Mr. J. O'B. Saunders who was now engaged in the management of the "Englishman" and who would attain his majority in March next, and one of the Rusbridgers.

Learned Counsel referred to Palmers, last edition Chapter 10 in support of his contention that the court had power to make the order asked for. The application was made under the Trustees Act and under the ordinary jurisdiction of the court.

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ITS MYSTERY, STRUGGLE, AND COMFORT
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BY

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It was extremely inconvenient to carry on the business of the newspaper as things stood and no body knew who was liable.

Mr. Justice Sale: The real difficulty is whether the court has power, under the sections which you invoke, to give liberty to trustees to set aside the actual provisions.

Mr. Graham said he did not rely on any section but upon the inherent jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr Justice Sale. I do not think that that jurisdiction should be exercised in that way for the purpose of setting aside express provisions. Is there anything to show that the Court has allowed trustees to go beyond their express powers?

Mr. Graham argued the point at some length and referred to 1901, 11 Chancery 534, the facts of which case were very similar to the present application. The only thing done in this case was that the Court insisted upon the matter being brought before the court a year after for directions as to whether the minor's shares ought not to be sold for cash. Here of the two minors one was 18 and the other would come of age in March next so that the necessity for such an order did not appear.

His lordship following the authority cited by Counsel, made the order asked for as it was evidently, for the benefit of all the parties interested in the arrangement but so far as the share of the infants was concerned, his lordship made it necessary for the parties to apply again within the period of one year for further directions.

"HUMAN OSTRICH."

The "human ostrich," Robert Navsmith, who for years amazed crowds of people at fairs and fairs held at different places in England by swallowing nails, harpins, and stones, and eating glass, has paid the penalty of his extraordinary diet.

He died in the Islington Workhouse infirmary on Wednesday last and the inquest on his body was held on Saturday by Mr. Walter Schroder, the deputy-corporator for Central London.

It was stated that Navsmith, who was thirty-four years old, was a member of a highly respectable Scotch family, his relatives living at Montrose. He lost touch with them some years ago, and earned a livelihood by exhibiting himself as a "human ostrich." He chewed glass, swallowed needles, harpins, hairpins, and nails; but the inevitable result followed.

He became ill, and had to give up his "profession." Afterwards he earned a few pence a day by selling postcards, but he became worse, and at last he had to seek admission to the parish infirmary, which he entered last April. He informed the doctors that he had been swallowing nails and harpins, but they did not believe him at first.

Shortly after his admission he told one of the nurses that he had been swallowing nails, and asked for a knife to relieve himself of them. This was reported to the doctors, who thought that the man was mad, and ordered that a watch should be kept on him. A few weeks ago an abscess formed on his body, and when it was opened a brass-headed nail was found in it. The doctors then questioned him closely, and discovered that his story was true, and that he had been made the subject of several magazine articles, describing him as a "human ostrich."

It was decided, however, that he was too weak to stand an operation, and he gradually sank and died. A post-mortem examination was made, and more than thirty nails and harpins were found in the body. Some of them were in the liver, some of them in the kidneys, but the larger number were in the intestines. The actual cause of his death was gastritis and peritonitis.

The jury returned a verdict of "Death by Misadventure."

SCARCITY IN EASTERN BENGAL.

No. 5903C., dated Shillong, the 16th June 1906.

From:—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam,

To:—The Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

I am desired to forward herewith, for the immediate information of Government, a copy of letter No 6P, dated the 9th June 1906, from the Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, in regard to the distress that has arisen in certain districts in Eastern Bengal, owing to the extraordinarily high prices which rice has been commanding this season.

2. During the past six months, the course of prices has been carefully watched by this Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor

vernor has been in close communication with the Commissioners and the District Officers concerned. When he visited the Noakhali district last January it became evident that there was some demand for agricultural loans, and steps were taken to make it known that they would freely be granted to deserving applicants. Their distribution is a novelty in Eastern Bengal, and at the outset no great eagerness for them was manifested. But during the past two months applications have become very numerous, and the distribution which has been made to local officers amounts to nearly 3 lakhs of rupees, and has exhausted the allotment which has been placed at the disposal of this Government.

Application has already been made to the Government of India for an increase of allotment. So far as is possible the loans are being granted on the system of joint personal bonds which was favoured by the Famine Commission.

3. Up to the present month, it has been reported from all districts that the people would not avail themselves of offers of work, and that the distribution of agricultural loans would suffice to meet such trouble as was expected. Lately, however, there has been an appreciable rise in the number of offences against property, and some grain riots have occurred in the neighbourhood of Maruka Bazar in the district of Tippera. Prices have also risen still further, and the Commissioners of Dacca and Chittagong have asked for large increases in their allotments for agricultural loans. The grain riots have been stopped by police intervention, the extra grants for agricultural loans have been made, and the Lieutenant-Governor has directed that arrangements shall be made by the District Boards in all areas whence complaints are received for the opening of rest works on roads or tanks to be managed by the District Engineers, without the intervention of contractors, payment being made at the rates prescribed by the Famine Code. It may be hoped that the opening of these works will afford some indication of the extent of the distress, and will serve to relieve it where it is found to exist. But the Government of India are aware that the class of landless labourers is comparatively small in Eastern Bengal, and that men who possess land are averse from labour. In these circumstances, it is by the distribution of agricultural loans that relief can be granted most efficaciously.

4. The districts to which reference is made are amongst those hitherto classed as not liable to famine. As the Government of India are aware, last year's rice crop yielded poorly, and in some localities very poorly indeed. This was especially the case in the low-lying portions of the Bakarganj and Faridpur districts. During the cold weather months pressure was aggravated by a large demand for export, but more recently rice has been imported from Rangoon in considerable quantities, and has found its way into the interior of the country, materially steadying prices. The extent to which jute has been substituted for rice in Bengal must have increased very greatly the sensitiveness of the rice market to any shortness in local supply.

5. It will be obvious to the Government of India that the hardships which the poorer classes have suffered, and are suffering, owing to the high price they have to pay for food have been aggravated very considerably by the rise in the prices of other commodities which has resulted from the efforts of those interested in the Swadeshi agitation to direct consumption into unaccustomed channels.

6. The present prospects of the early rice crop are everywhere reported to be favourable, though insects are doing some damage in Bakarganj, and advances for jute cultivation are now being made, so that there is good ground for the hope that the present position will shortly improve. In the meantime, full reports are being called for from the Commissioners as to the actual situation in each district, and any further information of importance that may be received from them will of course be reported to the Government of India.

No. 61—L. R., dated Camp Barisal, the 9th June 1906.

From—H. Le Mesurier, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Offg. Commissioner, Dacca Division.

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Eastern Bengal and Assam.

In continuation of my letter No. 705 L. R., dated the 4th instant, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to report that I arrived here on the 5th instant, and have since been consulting the local officers as to the condition of the people and the measures necessary to deal with high prices. I have been able to profit by the prolonged experience and peculiarly minute local knowledge of the Settlement Officer, Mr. Jack, and especially valuable information regarding the peculiarly distressed area in the bhils of Gournadi has been given by the clergy of the Oxford and Roman Catholic Missions resident there, and by the Reverend Mr. Carey, Superintendent of the Baptist Mission at Barisal.

2. Yesterday I held a conference, at which were present the Collector, the Khas mahal Deputy Collector who conducted the relief operation in 1894-95, and the two Sub-Deputy Collectors who have been employed on loan enquiries during the past two months. The conclusions arrived at are shown in the annexed note. They may, I think, be summarised by saying that acute distress is practically confined to the bhil tract of Gournadi and a portion of the Patuakhali thana, though there are isolated instances of it elsewhere and notably in the more lonely parts of the Sunderbans, which will be dealt with separately through the Khas mahal and Settlement staff.

3. The demand for loans has been very great, and the Collector has been mobbed for some time past by crowds of applicants. The fact, however, that some of them refused the loans offered them as being too small and that almost all of them refused the offer of work near their villages shows that they are merely anxious to borrow at low interest, and the Collector himself tells me that among all these crowds he only observed two men who showed real signs of privation, and these he relieved at once. The Vice-Chairman and one of the oldest members of the District Board, who have called on me in this connection, agree the crowds of petitioners who come in are probably not the persons who really need help most, and I am happy to find they concur in the recommendations noted by the Officers' Conference.

4. The rise in the price of Rangoon rice has unquestionably aggravated matters here. That rice has not been sold here to any appreciable extent, but it largely supplemented local stocks in the other districts of the Division. When, therefore, its price was suddenly raised (it is believed by a "Corner" in Rangoon), those districts in which jute has for some years past been displacing rice to a considerable extent began importing from this district. The District Superintendent of Police and one of the Sub-Deputy Collectors have themselves seen large quantities of rice being exported to Dacca. This has raised the current price to 7½ seers per rupee, which is by far the highest point ever reached here and more than 50 per cent above the normal price-current. The local mahajans are also withholding sales owing to the appearance of insects in certain areas, which to some extent threatens the coming aus (rains) and aman (winter) harvests. On the whole, however, the prospects of the crops are very good, and to-day there is a slight fall in the market price.

5. There is no doubt that the pinch of these high prices has been felt throughout the district, and the figures of theft and burglary which the Magistrate has collected and which will be submitted with his forthcoming report show this very clearly by a large increase. As might be expected, this is particularly marked in the bhil tract of Gournadi. The conditions of that tract are well known to the First Member of the Board, and the state of affairs at present closely resembles that of which he had personal experience in 1894. Excessive rain in April and May destroyed the sowings of both aus and aman. Second sowings were attempted when possible, but again flood destroyed the aus and prevented transplantation of the aman. In other parts of the district much damage was done by insects. It is believed the unusually cloudy and wet weather which prevailed during the cold season kept the pest alive and account for their re-appearance in some places this year.

6. However, the prolonged drought in March and April has dried up much more of the bhil country than usual, and therefore gives an exceptionally wide field for plough and sowing. It is on this account that liberal loans are wanted in this area and I yesterday applied by telegraph for an extra grant which will raise the total allotment for this district to Rs. 50,000, the sum fixed by the Board in its telegram of the 17th March to the Collector. I have now to request that the Board will be pleased to grant the necessary funds as set forth in paragraph 5 of the minutes of the Officers' Conference, and to approve my action directing immediate further disbursement of Rs. 10,000 in anticipation of sanction.

7. Unless anything should unfortunately happen to injure the aus crop, it may be hoped that when this is harvested, prices will fall and the stress of the scarcity will be over. This should be a matter of six weeks or two months. For part of this time the works offered by the District Board should be sufficient. What is stopped, employment can be found in clearing tanks, cutting jungle, and other small measures in villages. I have impressed all concerned the necessity for great vigilance, lest those who are unable to work and, having no land of their own, are dependent on the charity of others should be put to the risk of losing this so gratuitous relief will become necessary.

8. The Collector is about to proceed on tour through affected tracts, and so will also the Sub-Deputy Collectors. The members of the District Board who reside in the affected localities have been asked to give them the fullest information in their fortnightly reports will be submitted by the Collector from date on wards. A copy of this report is being sent to Government.

and a lesson taught of self-reliance unique in the history of a Free-Trade-Fad-ridden-rule.

MUNICIPALITIES OF BENGAL, 1904-1905.

THE Municipalities and District Boards have been more largely before the public than before the partition of Bengal. The partitioned province with its municipalities gave umbrage to its ruler as a number of them declined to welcome the Lieutenant-Governor as they were in mourning. The municipalities came to grief in various ways. The public were anxiously awaiting the next annual report of the working of the municipalities. It is a matter of gratification to learn that Mr. Shirres thinks that the "administration of municipalities continues to be satisfactory." We observe that since the introduction of local Self Government the report is one of progress and the year under review maintains that character. The Government naturally looks upon the collection head as a test of progress. No doubt it is one of the sure tests. But the fact stands out that in spite of the improvement in the percentage of collection from 92.9 to 93.5, the total deaths are 1.4 per mille more than births. The former claims 102,739 or 36.1 per mille and the latter 98,690 which represents a rate of 34.7 per mille. The progress in many directions of municipal administration commands congratulations from the public and the Government, but the death figures take us some twenty years back. Fever claimed 15.3 per mille, Cholera, Small-pox and Plague had each its share of human victims in no small degree. That state is to be regretted as all of these diseases are preventible. When Malaria is not a new comer in Bengal, it is high time that deaths from malaria should be as low as possible. If the municipal towns present such figures the whole rural population gives a very staggering account no doubt. The total deaths in all Bengal were 2,415,423 or 32.4 per mille. Of this no less than 1,665,198 deaths, or more than two-thirds of the total number, are attributed to fever. We regret to find that the Lieutenant-Governor is not for any prompt action, such as improved drainage. Poverty of the people contributes a large share to the susceptibility of the people to falling victims to malaria. This is well-known to the Government. Under the circumstances we think the Government should bestir itself in this direction with the energy and public spirit which the occasion demands. The census of 1901 reveals the fact that the proportion of rise in the birth of Hindus is diminishing. Leaving aside the vital portion of the working of the municipalities, when we look to their financial part the aspect is cheerful indeed. The total income increased by Rs. 3,91,398, while expenditure increased by Rs. 4,07,435. Great attention was paid to the construction and maintenance of waterworks, and the necessity of improving the drainage of towns is being generally recognised by municipalities.

Eight municipalities out of a total of 161 maintain complete water-work installations of their own. Where water-taps are the only source of water it is cruelty to have insufficient supply of water during the hot months. And this actually took place in Darjeeling and we read "arrangements have been

made to link up a spring which has hitherto been untapped."

Hospitals and dispensaries are urgent adjuncts of urban towns where diseases run rampant. In our country, hospitals are not yet as efficient and popular as they should have been. But dispensaries should multiply and be made more useful. During the last budget meeting of the Bengal Council, the founding of a paying ward in the Calcutta Medical College was considered and approved. But in view of the appalling state of health in Bengal is it too much to expect the same for principal towns? These towns are resorted to by the villagers for the purpose of getting better medical help. And the number of these poor villages is very large. Rented houses are not so much available in those towns as in the city of Calcutta, so it will be really a boon to a very large number of rural population if there be paying wards in these municipal towns. In more advanced towns such may be tried. Regarding Public Instruction the official-observation is that "the prescribed standard of 3.2 per cent. has not yet been reached in the aggregate, but it is largely exceeded in many of the smaller towns. The general ratio is kept down by the fact that in the larger towns primary education can be provided for by a smaller proportionate expenditure." The Government aid to primary education is so small that the people can without much difficulty throw it away and take up the matter in their own hands. In fact, in view of the present retrograde measures of the Government in matters educational, is it not time for us to think seriously of the question?

The collections have been very satisfactory. This may point to the well-being of the people and the good administration by the commissioners. That the people have come to realise their duty is an index of true progress. Howrah claims to be specially noticed. It is in fact a growing town. It is but natural that being so close to the metropolis, it should run apace in matters municipal. The extension of tramway service from Calcutta has been decided upon. This brings us to the question of connecting the country places with the town centres. The advantages are undoubted.

The Calcutta Municipality is not considered in this annual report of the working of Bengal Municipalities.

THE MARITIME TRADE OF BENGAL, 1905-06.

THE nation of shop-keepers has been carrying on a flourishing trade in India since it received the Royal assent of Queen Elizabeth to trade in India on the 31st of December 1600. The East India Company has broken the record of all trading companies that have yet come into being. When the East India Company abstained from all commercial business from April 1834 and stood forth only as Administrators and Rulers of India and finally when the company ceased to exist in 1858, that is, when the empire was transferred from the company to the crown, the innate spirit of traders did not leave the British in India. They are still looked upon as the Vaishya or trading caste. Such a continuous flow of glorious trade as is to be found here is unique in the history of the world. The report under review is no exception to it. The report says: "High as was the aggregate total value of the previous year's trade of the Presidency of Bengal, it has been surpassed in the past year by 7.4 per cent. and a record has been established. The

trade has been larger both in the foreign and coasting trade, in the former the rise was 5·5 per cent., and in the latter 19·8 per cent. In the foreign trade imports of gold and silver, and exports of foreign merchandise and silver contracted in value, but all else expanded considerably. In the coasting trade the fluctuations were on a smaller scale; there was a falling off in imports of foreign merchandise and gold, but all descriptions of exports were larger. In the foreign trade, Calcutta absorbed 97·2 per cent. of the total value; Chittagong 2·5 per cent., and the remaining ports 3 per cent. Calcutta appropriated 90·3 per cent. of the total coasting trade; Chittagong 6·7 per cent.; and Narayanganj and Orissa ports 3 per cent. Combining both the foreign and the coasting trade, the appropriation by Calcutta of the total aggregate trade was 96·18 per cent.; Chittagong 3·15 per cent.; Balasore, 4·3; Cuttack 1·8; Puri 0·2; and Narayanganj 0·4 per cent." The total export over import of both the foreign and coasting trade of the six ports of United-Bengal Calcutta, Chittagong, Balasore, Cuttack, Puri and Narayanganj, amounts to about 21 crores of Rupees. (Rs. 20,89,97,769.) The imports of the British Isles are invariably much in excess of their exports. That shows that the British exporters have a larger credit in the world's market than the Indian ones.

The large number of imported and exported items clearly indicate two important things. First, in Bengal there is no means to manufacture the article imported, some of them though of very great necessity for our lives. The exports indicate the raw produce of the country. Let the people buy articles in the cheapest market but that is no reason why our exports would be all agricultural and not manufactured. Let the people know the state of the trade in Bengal. Mere agriculture will not save the people from the grip of dire poverty. "An agricultural nation," observed Fiedlerick List, the eminent German economist, "is a man with one arm belonging to another person, but cannot be sure of having it always available. An agricultural manufacturing nation is a man who has both his arms of his own, and at his disposal." The exports and imports show first that the people are hopelessly agricultural and secondly that there is need of educating the people on industrial and technical lines. Here is ample reason for the Swadesi movement. "The disturbing factor that arose in the shape of the Swadeshi movement" though unable to boycott all foreign goods has been successful in checking the progress of the sale of dhotis and grey shirrings and the warehouses of the Port Commissioner are day to day being filled with imported piece-goods. There is practically no demand for them. As time goes on the people will be able to give up foreign piece goods and manufacture equally good and cheaper ones here. Iron, Sugar and Salt come after dhotis.

SIBPUR EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

SELDOM do we come across such bold, clear and disappointing Government report. Mr. D. Datta, Professor, Civil Engineering College, in charge of the Sibpur Farm, divides the report into two parts. The first gives an account of the agricultural classes in the Sibpur Engineering College practically under the teaching staff of one whole-time officer, the lecturer on agriculture and agricultural chemistry. The other subjects are taught by the professor of the Engineering College, Veterinary College and so on. So the classes have not regular professors and the teaching naturally suffers on that account. In these days of specialisation, it is ridiculous to read in the report that "the duty of teaching law was likewise thrown upon the agricultural lecturer." When such a thing was actually taking place Sir A. Pedler was the Director of Public Instruction, a chemist presiding over the Public Instruction of over 70 millions of people. The chemical knight has been replaced by a civilian with no university qualification, rather possessing a universal knowledge of things as is to be expected of any member of the heaven-born service. We do not know if under Mr. Earles regime things will turn better. There are twelve chairs in the Ontario Agricultural College in Canada. In comparison the Sibpur Agricultural College is a shame. Before the private Colleges are con-

demed the Government will do well to bear in mind that it lives in a glass house.

Mr. Datta further says "that the uncertainty regarding the removal of the Agricultural classes to Pusa, seriously interferes with their proper working." We hope in the beginning of 1907, the Pusa College will be ready for teaching all the different branches of the Science of Agriculture and Mr. Datta's idea of opening a dairy for giving practical training in dairy farming, and of arranging for practical training in bacteriological work for the investigation of soil and dairy bacteria as well as the bacterial diseases of plants will be soon realised. Mr. Datta so complained about a year ago and the students are yet to wait about a year for the full course of instruction. We next observe that of the two classes of the Agricultural Department the lower one has ceased to exist since 1901 and we have now only the higher class which is in its 7th year of existence.

The second part deals with the Sibpur Agricultural Experimental Farm. The year under report is the 18th year of its existence. It was originally under the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, but is now under the Education Department. The management of the farm was by Babu Bhabatosh Dutta under Mr. D. Datta's supervision. The Superintendent of the farm speaks well of Babu Bhabatosh's work.

There is no rain-gauge in the experimental farm. Readings elsewhere have been used to measure the rainfall here.

We have said at the outset that the report is a bold and disappointing reading. We find it so at every step. We read that "Dr. Leather's analysis of three samples of the Sibpur Farm soil show a remarkable want of uniformity in the composition of the soil making it rather unsuitable for experimental purposes." Strange, the soil was chosen and out of the total area of 27 acres of the Farm including building sites &c., and a large jhil, 16 acres were cultivated for experimental purposes. John Bull is all forward in trade and commerce but in matters scientific he is backward.

Jute, paddy, sugarcane and potatoes were experimented with these manures: cowdung, oilcakes, apatite-saltpetre and bone-meal. Jute with cowdung, paddy and potato with castor-cake yielded increased outturn.

The most important experiment conducted during the year under report was on the mode of cultivation. The rotation of three crops in one year should engage the attention of all. It is not stated if the taking of three crops in one year from the same plot gave satisfactory results. Detailed information is wanting which is to be regretted. Moreover it is yet to be noticed whether the fertility of the soil suffers in any way if such repeated crops are taken from the same plot even with the best of manures. The report gives this bare statement only:—"Like last year 3 crops were taken from the same plot: (1) potatoes sown by the end of November, and harvested by the beginning of March; (2) followed by maize sown by the last week of March, and the green cubs sold off in June; and (3) followed by Reana sown in June and fed off by cattle in September."

There was an increase in the income of the year under report of Rs. 237-12-6 over that of the previous year.

LAND RECORDS OF BENGAL, 1904-05.

THE work of the Survey and Settlement Departments extended over portions of 84 districts lying in 8 Divisions in United Bengal, exclusive of the Survey of the suburbs of Calcutta. The area for which a record of rights was completed during the year, under the control of the Director of Land Records, was 2,404 Square miles, bringing up the total area thus dealt with in the Province to 37,635 Square miles. It is satisfactory to learn that there was a reduction in the cost of traverse survey everywhere save in the District of Purnea.

An amendment of the Chota Nagpur Landlord and Tenant Procedure Act so as to remove the grievances of Mundaris is under consideration. Also the Bengal Tenancy Act amendment to give greater authority to the record-of-rights when such record has been duly prepared and published has been referred to the Government of India for sanction to its introduction. The poor zemindars of

Bengal know no rest so long as the Permanent Settlement is not destroyed root and branch. The report under review gives nothing so much to fear as the impending legislation. There is nothing to speak now till the Bill is made public. The amendment to be introduced may be a small thing, but what is feared most is its attendant evils.

The judicial Administration is almost perfect here. It is satisfactory to find measures taken to make it as efficient as possible.

The High Court and the Supreme Government have sanctioned the proposal to depute a few more munsiffs annually to settlement duty, in order to enable them to acquire a practical knowledge of the settlement procedure and the validity which attaches to the record at its various stages. Six munsiffs were employed as Assistant Settlement Officers in the Settlement of Bihar and Ranchi.

THE Record of Agricultural Experiments, Sripur Farm, Hathwa Estate, 1904-05 gives a useful and interesting account of the improvement of live stock as was found by a year's experience on the farm. It is a regrettable truth that cattle is gradually becoming scarce and the smallness of grazing area accounts for a poor stock of them. It is of very great importance to save the cattle for the saving of human beings. During the last famine the hide business was very brisk. Deaths of human beings and cattle as well brought misery in the country. We shall be thankful to God if the famine in Eastern Bengal confine itself to one phase of the calamity as reported. Deaths of cattle are reported to be not numerous. Country cattle do not cross-breed with other than their own country mates. Breeds from Hissar Farm deserve attention. For heavy draught purposes the male calves fetch double the prices obtained for country bull-calves. "Cross-breeding of country cows with these larger bulls attained some measure of success. The rayyets also appreciate the crosses, no doubt, for cart instead of for ploughing work." Queensland cows and bulls have proved totally unsuccessful in Sripur Farm. The Montgomery cattle have been given the first place of merit of all the different breeds of animals kept on the farm during last year. The Murrah buffaloes are much appreciated. "The bull is in great demand and it is hoped that in a few years improvement of the local breed of buffaloes will be quite noticeable." The Farm is careful to improve the breed of goats as well. The Jamunapari goats have been kept for rearing stock and also, improving the local breeds. The he-goats are greatly in demand and nothing but cross-breeds are to be seen some miles round the Farm. We are glad to learn that the breed of sheep also has not escaped the attention of the Superintendent. The Amritsar sheep have been found to be successful on a small scale on the Farm. A Cashmere sheep, we know, was once attempted to be brought down to Bengal but it died on reaching Rawalpindi. The improvement of mutton and wool is assured when the herd increases. Dairy work has not been taken up in any appreciable scale.

Thanks to severe frost, jackals and pigs many experiments with different crops failed. "In view of the sugarcane crop in these parts," says Mr. N. N. Bannerjee, "the experiment may be persevered in for some years."

The implements recommended by the Superintendent should widely be made known to the agriculturists.

Here the soil has not yet been chemically examined though experiments have been taken in hand.

THE Dumraon Experimental Farm has been in existence since 1896. In 1885 it was established by the Dumraon Raj at Parasbana. The site being found unsuitable by the Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India it was transferred to the present site. It consists of two blocks of land intersected by the railway line, and comprises an area of about 30 acres, of which 22 acres are under cultivation, the rest being occupied by roads, channels, buildings etc. The expenses of the farm are borne by the Maharani Saheba of Dumraon, but the supervision and experimental programme rest with the Agricultural Department of the Government of Bengal.

Manurial experiments were tried with paddy, wheat, potatoes, and sugarcane.

Eleven different varieties of crops were grown for comparative testing. Many of the crops were damaged by frosts and insects. Of the 18 varieties of paddy only Sukavel variety of Bombay was appreciated by the agriculturists who expressed a desire to try it in their own fields. Here Patna potato gave 13,200 lbs. per acre and was said to be "not bad," while in Sibpur Farm for the same area Nainital potato gave 8354 lbs.

We are not told if the distribution of seeds and manures was greater or less than or equal to that of last year. Students from Sibpur Agricultural College and Dumraon Raj School paid visits for practical training.

The expenditure incurred during the year was about Rs. 2,500, while receipts were only Rs. 675. The decrease in the receipts was chiefly due, it is said, to the failure of the sugarcane crop.

DURING the hearing of the Rule in the contempt of Court case, Mr. Justice Mitter asked:—

'What is the distinction between an illegality and an irregularity?'

Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer answered:—

'Where the direction of law is complied with in substance that amounts to a irregularity, but where there is a distinct disregard of the direction of law, it is an illegality.' To the second question—Where is the line of demarcation? the answer was:—

'When the provisions of law are complied with in substance so as not to cause miscarriage of justice, that is irregularity, but if they are totally ignored, that is illegality.'

So, according to the Deputy Legal Remembrancer, the High Court is not to interfere unless there is miscarriage of justice and irregularities—whatever their number or kind are not to be taken into consideration when doing justice. No irregularity, whatever its species or degree, is a subject for the High Court's interference. Mr. Justice Mitter considers that there may be irregularities amounting to illegality. Are not irregularities so many drawbacks to justice tending to miscarriage of justice? But for Chapter XLV—of Irregular Proceedings—of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898, Mr. Douglas White would have made a different distinction between Irregularity and Illegality. That Chapter is encouragement to the Magistrates to deviate from the straight path of justice. Section 537 is meant to cover all errors, omissions or irregularities in the complaint, summons, warrant, charge, proclamation, order, judgment or other proceedings before or during trial or in any enquiry. If the Courts gave to 'irregularity' no wider meaning than that illustrated in that section, there would not be so many complaints. And it is surely the duty of the High Court to see that the latitude given to the Magistrates does not exceed the strict limits.

Like the Judge in the lower Court, the Deputy Legal Remembrancer, in the High Court, introduced the 'rotten' chair in support of the conviction of the unmannerly Babu by the Magistrate of which chair incident the Magistrate took no notice in his judgment or seems to have taken none in his explanations to the High Court. The Magistrate found contempt of Court against the Babu for words which he the Magistrate neither recorded nor remembered afterwards. It was not the sound caused by the drawing up of the 'rotten' chair that disturbed the judicial calm of the Magistrate. The irritation was occasioned by the continuous but no uniform vibrations, in the stillness of the room in the Magistrate's private residence where the Babu was taken as a prisoner, produced by his mutterings which were neither melodious nor harmonious. For, then they would, sweetly acting on the ears, have smoothed the Magistrate who had been agitated in his mind by visions of breaches of peace in the public streets.

Mr. Jackson explained to the Court that the word used by his client was 'rattarn' and not 'rotten.' This explanation might, as it should, have been published earlier.

THE new Indian daily—"Light"—of Lahore, started on Thursday the 12th July, concludes "Our Plea. Why we are here," thus:

"Hail Holy Light!"

Not ashamed of our poverty, because wealth is not our object and because it is a poor country that we have to serve, and placing our trust in the God whose bounty furnishes whatever is necessary for the carrying on of His work, we unfurl the banner of Light in the land of the Five Rivers, where first were sung those hymns to Truth and Light which have through successive generations furnished music to the Indian soul and kept it from sinking in the mud in the midst of the most abject degradation in the physical circumstances of life. May those days of simplicity, purity and true nobility of soul return to India, and may the Light of Knowledge which alone can disperse the gloom of sin and sorrow, reflected a thousand-fold by contact with the West, again shine resplendent upon this land!

We hail the Light arising in the West of India, because the conductor is an experienced editor, well-known in Indian journalism from Bengal to the Panjab. Always for the People or the Million and full of Hope, he last defended, as the Tribune, the liberties of the people. Now he raises the banner of Light.

IN imitation of the Government of India, the Government of Mysore have opened a Press Room in Bangalore:

No. G. 45---76---G. M. 1 06-1, dated Bangalore, 3rd July 1906.

Order---With a view to enable the Press to obtain authentic information regarding matters of public interest which are dealt with in the course of official correspondence, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja have made arrangements for opening a Press Room in the Public Offices Buildings in Bangalore.

2. All information or correspondence which can properly be placed at the disposal of the Press will be sent to this room daily, either in print or in manuscript, by the Secretaries to Government in the different Departments.

3. The room will be under the immediate control of the Secretary in the General and Revenue Department, and will, in addition to official papers sent down as above, also contain a complete set of official works of reference and such other general works of reference as may be specially selected from time to time.

4. Admission to the room will be by cards issued to the accredited representatives of newspapers of recognised standing. Application for such cards should be made by the proprietor of the newspaper concerned to the Secretary to Government in the General and Revenue Department.

5. The distribution of printed copies of official documents to newspapers and their representatives will continue as heretofore.

K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar,

Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Dept.

It is reported in Japanese papers that the wife of a fisherman living at Ine-mura, Savogori, Tango province, was engaged in picking plants a few days ago, with her baby of two months on the ground near by, when she was startled by a sudden scream from the infant. On turning round, she saw a large crow, with blood drooping from its bill, fly away from the child. Hurrying to the latter she found that its left eye had been picked out while there were also two wounds, each about the size of a son, on the back of its head. Medical attention was at once obtained but the baby quickly died.

London, June 28. Lord Curzon speaking at the Hardwicke Society dinner, said tranquillity in India was due not to military force but to respect for and confidence in law.

London, July 14. The French Chambers by an overwhelming majority have passed bills, for the reinstatement of Captain Dreyfus and Colonel Picquart, but refused the dismissal of the anti-Dreyfusard Officers.

A Bill was introduced in the French Chamber to-day for promoting Dreyfus and Picquart. Violent scenes followed. M. presence demanded the dismissal of the officers guilty of machination's against Dreyfus. M. pugliesi called the Government cowards and wretches. The Under-Secretary of the Interior struck him in the face which caused a tremendous uproar and the president closed the sitting.

A duel with sword took place between M. Pugliesi and M. Sarrazin in consequence of the incident which occurred in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday during the discussion of the Bill for promoting Dreyfus and Picquart. The Under-Secretary for the Interior received a thrust through the right lung and his condition is declared to be serious.

London, July 15. In reply to a request for further details of Mr. Morley's speech regarding the Sylhet Execution London writes: Mr. Morley said that the incredulity with which he received the first question concerning Sylhet, was justified in some particulars. Mr. Morley recounted minutely the whole case, explaining that the Local Government admit mistakes made in overlooking the fact that the 20th May was Sunday, with the possibility of delay. He continued: "The action of the Lieutenant-Governor was strictly in accordance with regulation. Touching petitions of criminals, it was however, my opinion, that it was to be expected that the Local Government would take care that the object of forwarding the petition was not made futile by taking no steps to suspend the execution. The Government of India have no doubt, that conviction and sentence were entirely just." Mr. Morley concluded his remarks as already wired.

London, July 16. Blue Book has been published regarding the Turco Egyptian frontier dispute. A despatch from Lord Cromer to Earl Grey, dated the 21st May, referred to the danger of an advance on the canal. A serious attack on Egypt seemed out of the question, but a possible raid might be attempted with a view to causing an outburst of fanaticism in Egypt. Such attempt would have been of the most desperate nature as a reverse would mean the annihilation of the attackers, but it seemed undesirable to take risks and so the Navy undertook to defend the canal.

Dealing with the influence of the Panislamic press, Lord Cromer doubts whether any of the newspapers would have risked its mendacity and misrepresentation, (sic) but is of opinion that the Panislamic press should be left alone for the present, trusting to time and reliance on the true facts for convincing the Egyptian public of the folly of those preaching Panislamicism. But if the press seriously menaces public tranquillity it will be the duty of the Government to resort to repression. Anyhow the conclusion to be drawn is abundantly clear, namely, that the British Garrison in Egypt must be permanently increased at the cost of the Egyptian Treasury.

Lord Cromer finally transmits an unsigned letter addressed to him by an anonymous but evidently enlightened and educated Egyptian who bears eloquent testimony to all Great Britain has done in Egypt, but points out that once the sword is drawn it would no longer be a cause of choice. Any Moslem must fight for the Sultan regardless of all considerations.

London, July 16. A great fire has taken place at Nijhni Novgorod; 275 houses and several warehouses were destroyed in six hours.

London, July 17. Major Dreyfus has been appointed to the Twelfth Battery of Artillery. General Picquart has also received a command.

HIGH COURT—JULY 16.

ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before Mr. Justice Sale.)

THE "ENGLISHMAN" NEWSPAPER.

RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME.

Mr. Graham, officiating Standing Counsel, made a rather peculiar application in connection with the will of the late Mr. John O'Brien Saunders, for many years the managing proprietor of the "Englishman" newspaper. The application was on behalf of Anna Roe Saunders widow of the testator and William Wavell, who represented certain co-owners of the "Englishman," and the order asked for was that the petitioners should be at liberty to concur in carrying into effect an agreement for the sale of the business of the "Englishman" and its conversion into a limited liability company.

The learned Standing Counsel in making his application stated that at the time of his death Mr. J. O'Brien Saunders was carrying on the business of the "Englishman" as manager. He himself held a ten anna share in it, his sister Mrs. Ada

BARRISTER AND JUDGE.

MR. SARVADHICARY'S SUIT DISMISSED.

The following judgment was delivered on Tuesday by Pandit Raj Nath Sahib Subordinate Judge of Allahabad, rejecting the plaint filed by Mr. Sarvadhicary, Barrister, against the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Richards:—

The plaintiff in this case is a Barrister-at-law and the defendant, a Judge of the N. W. P. High Court of Judicature at Allahabad. He has brought this suit for recovery of Rs. 1,000 as damages and for a perpetual injunction against the defendant restraining him from using words similar to those which the plaintiff says the defendant used with regard to him. He alleges that on the 19th April, 1906 while he was arguing a case before the defendant the latter asked him threateningly to "hold his tongue," in the presence of some of his colleagues at the Bar and litigants with a view to lower him in their estimation. Plaintiff further alleges in his plaint that the use of this language has prejudicially affected his professional reputation and lowered him in the estimation of the public generally and the litigants, and that his practice has fallen off. Plaintiff alleges in his plaint that justice requires that the Court should issue an injunction as prayed.

After going through the plaint carefully I did not feel satisfied that it discloses a cause of action, and I accordingly called upon the plaintiff to satisfy me that he had a cause of action. Plaintiff appeared in person and argued his case on this point at considerable length. My attention was drawn to a ruling reported in 3 Bombay High Court Reports, Appellate Jurisdiction, page 47, but I think it can have no application to this case, as the report shows that the defendant in that case was a Magistrate, and not a Judge, like the defendant in this case of a superior Court. It has been contended by the plaintiff that I am bound to issue notice to the defendant, and that I cannot say at this stage whether the plaint discloses a cause of action. I cannot agree with the plaintiff, as I think Section 53 of the Code of Civil Procedure gives me power to say at this stage of the case whether the plaint discloses a cause of action.

The cause of action set forth by the plaintiff in his plaint is the use of the words hold your tongue by the defendant from his place on the Bench. Assuming that these words were really used by the defendant, I think that as a Judge of a superior Court he is absolutely privileged. The authorities are to my mind quite clear that a Judge of a superior Court is not responsible for any defamatory words uttered by him when he is acting as such, even though he speaks them maliciously. (See Starkie on the Law of Libel and Slander, 4th Edition, pages 378, 379; Ratanlal's Law of Torts, pages 189 and 199) I therefore decline to issue summonses to the defendant, and proceeding to set under Section 53 of the Code of Civil Procedure. I reject the plaint.—"The Bengalee, July 14."

FAREWELL TO MR. JUSTICE PRATT.

On Friday the 13th instant after Mr. Justice Pratt had taken his seat on the Bench, Khan Bahadur Moulvi Mahomed Yusuf addressed a few appreciative words in recognition of his relationship with the Bar and his services as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court on the eve of his retirement.

Mr. Justice Pratt, in reply, said it had always been his pleasure during his service of thirty-seven years, beginning as Assistant Magistrate and ending in the high office he now held to work in sympathy and harmony with the people of this country and on this account his work had been a pleasant one. He looked back upon his time spent in India as a happy time. It had not been the work of a mere servant actuated by a sense of duty, but he had been stimulated by deep interest and sympathy for the people of India. He was very grateful to Moulvi Mahomed Yusuf for recognising that such a spirit had animated him and that he had tried to do justice to the best of his lights. But in his efforts he must say he had been very ably supported by the Indians, and his work would have been even more defective than it had been without that very valuable assistance. Although he was going into retirement, he would not forget India and its people, whose interest had been so indissolubly connected with his own. It was his fervent hope that he would yet in some measure be able to prove of use to the people of this country.

The Vakeels of the High Court gave him a farewell party on Saturday last and the Bar entertained him to a farewell dinner last week.



He who pays the Piper, has the right to call the tune.

AN EPIGRAM.

For Justice and Mercy base Jeffrys and Scroggs,
Of old earned historic renown;
Now, with 'Learning' and 'Honor' our Dadsons and Fogg,
Play the Dickens in country and town.

IMPROMPTU.

On being informed that a young lady was so angry with the writer that she had resolved to "pull his beard at sight!"

(With apologies to the Shade of Dr. Watts's name.)

Let Fogg and Dodson plot and sue,
For 'tis their business to;
Let learned Buzfaz shed dry light,
On points obscure to view.
But E*ed, you should never let
Your dear (?) Embrace be feared;
Your soft white bands were never made
To pull an old man's beard.

A PROPOS DE RIEN.

(After old Derry down Derry's "Nonsense Verses.")

There was a good man named young Laurence,
Who dreamt that he walked into Florence.
But one hot melting day,
In the middle of May,
He recalled that bad dream with abhorrence!

There was an old man of Madras,
Who resembled a *keiari** as;
But the length of his cara,
So promoted one's fears,
That they "scotched" that old man from Madras!

ARUNADAYA DHUAPATRA.

* The *Gayrati* for cream-coloured. The reason why I have selected the "Banighted Presidency" and not Bombay, Bengal, or Orissa for this "Limeric" is because, Madras rhymes so naturally with 'Ass and because, I did not wish any of the patriotic "National" *Bideshi*, *Swadeshi*, or *Extra-deshi* readers of *R. & R.* to assume that the cap fitted this, that, or the other well known honey-headed sinner, consistently occupied in "enhancing the fears" of a nervous Bureau-cracy at a critical time like this.—*Honi soit qui mal y pense.*—A. D.

*REIS & RAYYET.**Saturday, July 21, 1906.***A REMEDY AGAINST FAMINES.**

PRACTICAL experience taken from the ex-Maharaja Sir Shivajirao of Indore, whose superior intelligence suggested a remedy in 1896-98, may be a help to the administrators, the reises, and the rayyets of India. His Highness condemned the relief system in vogue in British territory, as people of different castes could not take food at public kitchens and because the Durbar underlings were not above temptation in distributing wages. He advanced Rupees three lakhs and directed that grain be purchased on the spot, or collected as revenue-in-kind. He further directed that export be stopped as he was responsible for the lives of his people. The free traders raised a howl, but the Political Agent was shown a certain clause which empowered the Maharaja to impose a tax, in cases of famine. His Highness preferred prevention of export to such a tax, the object being the same. The sensible Political Agent Col. (now) Sir David Barr acceded, on the understanding that the British towns and cantonments of Indore and Mhow were granted the same concessions as those held out to the Maharaja's rayyets. Thus a large quantity of grain was stored all over the State of Indore. It was purchased at 16 to 18 seers a Rupee. Thus armed, the benevolent Maharaja, the Shepherd of his Flock, as he calls himself, being Dhangar by caste, placed himself in a position to combat the Demon of Famine, and, when grain was being sold at 5 to 6 seers a Rupee, he directed that his stock be sold at 11 seers or nearly double the quantity, on condition that it was actually consumed within his own jurisdiction. Not a single death has been recorded from starvation within the blessed land of Maharaja Shivajirao Holkar. His philanthropy attracted the starving population of the Rajputana States, which actually encouraged emigration from their tracts. This was brought to the notice of Sir David Barr, who humanely for the rayyets of Indore, took up the subject and through the help of his Government got them rebooked for their own States. Thus saved from the ravages of the furnishing of neglected tracts, the Indore population was very happy indeed. But the Banias, the usurers, and the like who wanted to fatten on poverty were discontented. They began to decry the Maharaja and they had the support of the minister, one of whose agents actually went to a cousin of the Maharaja to induce him to send petitions. An agitation was started, supported by the head of an opium-speculating firm, who had a large balance against a man in power. It was taken up by the Viceroy and the abdication was the result of a war of words between a high-minded warrior Prince and a new British peer whose intellectual powers have never been challenged. He has bought experience dear. In his calmer moments, in his present retirement he will see what he was made to do. His is the same fate as that of His Highness Shivajirao Holkar. Holkar had to abdicate and Curzon had to resign. The difference, is due simply to heredity in one case and 'service' in the other. His Excellency did not deserve his fall in the name of the cause he had then vindicated but there could not be two cocks on the same dunghill." And the

weaker (the civil side) had to go to the wall. In the case of Indore, the weaker (the Maharaja) had to go to the wall. It is said that the Maharaja complained of the back-door influence of the opium-speculating sowcar. But no heed was paid. The late Viceroy protested against the proposal of the Commander-in-Chief but he could not succeed. At the next famine operations, there was an expenditure of Rupees 17 lakhs from the Indore Treasury. It was handed over to the Department manned by Banias and thrown to the winds. All restrictions on export were removed, and the stock of some of the members of the Durbar was mainly sold to the State itself at double and treble the prices. A Bania who was the enemy of the Maharaja was given a State elephant to ride through the city in procession in the name of a temple. Such is the fate of the nominal Maharajas of India. As soon as a Minister makes friends with the local British magnates, his sole ambition is to create a long minority. The Indore reserve Treasury is a paper reserve not silver or gold, the Indore Revenue is all spent every year, while the Maharaja used to save a lot. The Indore Finance Department is specially retained in the hands of the Minister and so is the Engineering or the spending Department. Buildings rose like mushrooms and fell like them, and the present Political Resident was obliged to import his own trusted friend to look after them. As long as there is no complaint, "Government will not interfere with the internal management of the State." This "no complaint" criterion has given a powerful handle to users who may with impunity loot the treasury.

To turn to famines. The Maharaja of Indore not only recouped himself of the advance of Rupees three lakhs, but received from the then Famine Administrator a profit of over twenty-seven thousand. His rayyets were thus saved in the famine of 1896-97, while in the next famine of 1899-00 under the "constitutional" Government of the council, he lost Rupees 17 lakhs and the lives of his rayyets. That is a good substitute indeed! The lesson taught however is, for the Reises and Rayyets of the British tracts to make a strong representation to buy in situ all grain and to sell it at a drop rate reserving a small margin for loss in weight from the ravages of rats, &c. If Government cannot undertake such a task, prejudicial to Free Trade, let Co-operative Societies be formed at once and purchases be made forthwith. There are thousands of religious, philanthropic and liberal minded Banias of the Jain sect (May God be praised for giving them a life-protecting religion!) who may willingly advance money at the Government-paper rate of interest, or even without interest for so benevolent a purpose. Stop export in self defence, store grain everywhere and sell it to members of Co-operative Societies. This is a wise step, and quite constitutional. Free Traders will not be able to complain if private firms undertake this Herculean task, for the protection of their own kith and kin. We have only to guard against heartless speculators who export all food stuffs available in India and create artificial famines for their own gain. Will "United Bengal" take up this vital question in hand? Then lives may be saved, capital usefully and somewhat profitably employed

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,231.

DEATH OF MR. W. C. BONNERJEE

REFERENCE IN THE HIGH COURT.

The Court room of the Chief Justice was crowded yesterday morning with barristers, attorneys, and vakils, before the regular business of the different Courts had commenced, to hear expressions of regret at the death of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, a well-known barrister of the Calcutta High Court, which took place in England on Saturday, the 21st instant. On the Acting Chief Justice, Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose, and the other Judges taking their seats, Mr. Sinha, the Officiating Advocate General, addressing the Chief Justice and the other Judges said:—It is my painful duty to announce to your lordships the melancholy intelligence which reached Calcutta yesterday morning of the death in England of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee who for many years had practised as an advocate of this Court. Born in the year 1844 Mr. Bonnerjee was called to the Bar by the Society of Middle Temple, and on the 11th of June, 1867, and about a year afterwards he was enrolled as an advocate of this Court in November, 1868. From that time onwards almost continuously he practised in this Court until the year 1903. His career at the Bar was one of exceptional brilliance. Within a few years he almost reached to the top of his profession. On the Original Side, I venture to think, there has not been for at least many, many years a practitioner in whom the Judges, the attorneys, and the litigating public had the same amount of confidence as they had in Mr. Bonnerjee. After having attained to the highest practice possible on the Original Side, Mr. Bonnerjee commenced to practise on the Appellate Side, and his success on that side was as rapid as on the Original Side of this Court. A sound lawyer, a perfect draftsman, and a brilliant cross-examiner, Mr. Bonnerjee was to many of us the ideal of a perfect advocate of this Court. His merit was appreciated both by the public and the Government of this country, and in 1883 he was appointed to act as Standing Counsel to the Government of India, which appointment he held for more than four years. He was also a Fellow of the University of Calcutta, and as a Fellow of that University, he sat in the local Legislature for nearly two years. And in every phase of life Mr. Bonnerjee displayed equal prominence. To his countrymen at large Mr. Bonnerjee was more or less an institution. For many years he loomed very large in the public eye. Though he retired from the country in 1902, and has since then resided in England, he always entertained ready sympathy to all his countrymen, and there was no public cause in this country in which he did not take a most active part, and to which he did not contribute his most active and most influential support. In him not only has the Bar lost one of its greatest members, but I venture to think this country has lost one of the greatest of her sons. To us whom he has left behind his name and example will always be one which we shall try to emulate. We can only express to the bereaved family the deep sympathy which the Bar feels for them in their great loss.

Babu Ram Churn Mitter, Senior Government Pleader, said:—I and my brother vakils fully endorse every word of what has been said by the learned Advocate-General. Mr. Bonnerjee's services

will not only be remembered in Court and in connection with the Courts, but his services outside the Court were also very valuable, and in the cause of his country he devoted the latter part of his life. Our condolence now to the bereaved family—his son and widow.

Babu Kally Nath Mitter as the Senior Attorney present said:—On behalf of the attorneys of the Court as senior member of the profession present, I express their unfeigned regret at the death of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee. I remember him when he was an articled clerk of Mr. Gillanders. I remember well the day he left for England to study for the Bar. I remember him when he came back to Calcutta, and got himself enrolled on the rolls of this Court; and I remember his early days of practice, and how he struggled on for a few years, and in a very short time rose almost to the top of the ladder. In him we have lost a genuine friend, notwithstanding the enormous amount of business at his command he was always ready to give us a helping hand in many matters about which he felt doubts, and went to him for his valuable advice. He was always ready to help, and in him we have lost one of our best men. I need not say that in him this country has lost one of her best sons.

His Lordship the Chief Justice said:—Mr. Advocate-General, Babu Ram Charan Mitter and Babu Kalinath Mitter, I need hardly assure you that myself and my brother Judges have heard of the death of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee with very great sorrow, and speaking for myself, I may tell you that every word that has fallen from you finds a ready response in my heart. The death of Mr. Bonnerjee is, indeed, a great loss to the great profession of which he was an ornament and, I may say, a very bright ornament. By his industry and perseverance, aided by the natural gifts he was possessed of, and by the thoroughness with which he always discharged his duty as an advocate, he won for himself the admiration both of the Bench and the Bar, and I may say of the public generally. And he attained for himself a most prominent position at the Bar of this Court—a position which, I think, had never been attained before by any Indian gentleman. He also filled the high office of standing Counsel with great credit to himself for some years. Amongst Indians, Mr. Advocate-General, as you are fully aware of and as you have also indicated, he occupied an unique position. He was held by his countrymen in the highest esteem, and I am almost certain that his death will be regarded by most of his countrymen as a national loss. After he retired from this country, he practised for several years in the Privy Council, where also he attained a prominent position, and, while practising in the Privy Council, he always interested himself in matters which concerned India, and what I value most is that he took the liveliest interest in Indian youths, who went to England for education. Indeed, to some of them, he acted as their kind guardian. I have no doubt, gentlemen, that the death of Mr. Bonnerjee will be mourned by all. He has left a large family, one of his sons being Mr. Shelley Bonnerjee, an Advocate and Official Assignee of our Court. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of my brother Judges, desire to express our deepest sympathy and to offer to the family of the deceased, to each and every one of them, our sincerest condolence on the great bereavement they have suffered.

The learned Judges then retired to their respective Compties, after which the gathering dispersed.—The Englishman, July 28.

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BARISAL ASSAULT CASES.

Proceedings against Mr. Kemp.

At the High Court yesterday before Justices Mitter and Holmwood presiding over the Criminal Bench Mr. A. Chaudhuri who appeared with Mr. K. N. Chaudhuri and Babu Narendra Kumar Bose made four applications. The first of these applications was on behalf of one Phanibhusan Banerjee, who complained before the District Magistrate of Barisal against Mr. Kemp, the District Superintendent of Police, Mr. Haynes, Assistant District Superintendent, and some subordinate police officers and constables charging them with offences under Sections, 148, 323, 325, 379 and 504, I. P. C. (rioting, assault, grievous hurt, theft and criminal intimidation.) The complaint was dismissed, but a rule was obtained by this Court and a further enquiry ordered. The Deputy Magistrate of Barisal then issued a notice on the petitioner to show cause why a sanction under Section 197 Cr. P. C., should not be produced. At the hearing the Deputy Magistrate, while holding that such sanction to be allowed to prosecute was unnecessary, dismissed the complaint holding that the acts of the accused were covered by Sections 76 I.P.C. and 128 Cr. P. C. The present motion was against this order of dismissal.

Mr. Chaudhuri submitted that Section 76, I.P.C. did not apply nor did Section 128 Cr. P. Code. The Deputy Magistrate should not have given consideration to the remarks of the District Magistrate made in an order which had been held by this court to be ultra vires. As regards the persons whose names were not mentioned the Deputy Magistrate should have given the petitioner an opportunity to identify them.

Mitter J. :—How do you say they were guilty of forming an unlawful assembly.

Mr. Chaudhuri said that the accused went there in a body armed with guns, bayonet and lathies and they intimidated the complainant and others. One of the persons was severely assaulted and this would also amount to grievous hurt. As regards the theft, it was with regard to the badges of the Anti-Circular Society Party. These were the badges which got suddenly glued to Mr. Kemp's hand and struck to it. He submitted that the Deputy Magistrate was right in holding that the sanction of the Government to the prosecution was not necessary.

Mitter, J. :—The accused may raise the question as to the necessity of sanction.

Mr. Chaudhuri said that when their Lordships granted a Rule, it was open to the accused to urge it before the Deputy Magistrate. At any rate the question only touched two of the accused persons only.

Mitter, J. :—Perhaps the best way in which you can elicit the facts is by applying for sanction. Then the whole matter will be brought forward.

Mr. Chaudhuri :—If that was the desire of the Government, we would not be obliged to come here.

Mitter, J. :—We must assume that the Government have that desire.

Mr. Chaudhuri pressed for a Rule and said that the petitioner wanted to proceed with the case not from any vindictive motive but to vindicate the majesty of law. Counsel asked their Lordships to consider the point whether if their Lordships held that a further enquiry should be directed, there should not be a transfer to some other district.

Their Lordships issued a Rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Backergunge to show cause why the order complained of should not be set aside, and a further enquiry directed and who in case this Court directs a further enquiry the case should not be transferred to some other district.

The question as to whether sanction is necessary for the prosecution of some of the officers under Section 197 of the code will be considered at the time when the rule will be heard.

The next application which was similar in all respects to the above was on behalf of Brojendra Lal Ganguly, the accused being the same persons as the previous case. The petitioner in the case was a person who was also assaulted.

Their Lordships issued a rule in this case in the same terms as in the first case.

Mr. Chaudhuri next moved on the two petitions of Hara Nath Ghose and Satish Chandra Mookerjee. Both these were

dismissed by the Deputy Magistrate. These complaints were upon the charges under sections 506 and 144 and were with reference to the Superintendent of Police dispersing the meeting and the accused in the cases were Mr. Kemp and another Saheb, who it has since been ascertained, was the Superintendent of Police, Khoolna. One of these two petitioners Satish Chandra Mookerjee had printed copies of the address of the President of the Barisal Conference in his hand. He was ordered to circulate them after the address had been delivered. His complaint was that the accused rode up to him, pushed him back against the wall with his pony and snatched away a copy of the address. The Magistrate in dismissing the complaint thought it was a very trivial affair.

Mitter, J. :—Don't you think it is really trivial?

Mr. Chaudhuri said it would be a trivial matter if it occurred simply between A and B. but when this kind of thing was done by an officer who disregarded the law which he was there to uphold it was a rather serious matter.

Mitter, J. :—What is the complaint? Mr. Chaudhuri said that he pressed his pony on to him and forcibly snatched away a copy of the address from him. Here was a person who was supposed to keep order. The other persons were not armed but the Police were. Their Lordships would consider the matter and see whether action of this kind might not have been likely to lead to a conflagration among the crowd at any moment.

Mitter, J. :—What did the Superintendent of Police do? He simply took this copy against the man's will.

Mr. Chaudhuri :—He drove him against the wall and pushed with his pony on this man's chest and snatched away a copy. The prosecution do not want to be vindicated but it is a matter which ought to be brought to the notice of the officers, who have to take proceedings against the people who break the law. The whole object of this kind of action is to incite the public to commit acts of violence. Your Lordships would never have heard of this matter if it was with regard to any other man and outside the surroundings of this affair.

Mitter, J. :—How do you charge unlawful assembly?

Mr. Chaudhuri :—The police came with men armed with guns and lathies and intimidated the people.

Mitter, J. :—It is certainly not unlawful assembly. The order was that they were not to meet to join in the meeting.

Mr. Chaudhuri said that his client was doing a lawful act. Several persons were exercising a lawful right in a place which was not a public place. They were in private property when certain officers came with that order under Section 144 and said "I want you to go away. If you do not go away quickly we will make you."

Mitter, J. :—How do you say an offence under Section 506 was committed?

Mr. Chaudhuri :—They came with armed men men with guns and bayonets and intimidated us.

Mitter, J. :—How does the threat he used bring him into the section. He had the authority of the Magistrate.

Mr. Chowdhuri said that the matter involved the very large question as to the right of executive officers coming forward under colour of an order and dispersing a meeting which was being held in the legal exercise of rights.

Their Lordships rejected both petitions.—The Bengalee, July 24.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,
Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.
Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna.
Treasurer.

Babu Anulya Dhan Pal.
Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vikshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donations to the Secretary as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT WARNING—When asking for WILKINSON'S SARSAPARILLA see that no deceiving and disappointing imitation is offered. All respectable Chemists and dealers in Medicine supply WILKINSON'S SARSAPARILLA which has a worldwide reputation of over 70 years "as a superior preparation always reliable." Notice the name and trade mark on all packets to imitate which is a felony.

FRAGMENT OF A CHARACTER.

By Thomas Moore.

Here lies Factotum Ned at last;
Long as he breathed the vital air,
Nothing throughout all Europe pass'd,
In which Ned had't some small share.

Whoe'er was in, whoe'er was out,
Whatever statesmen did or said,
If not exactly brought about,
'Twas all, at least, contrived by Ned.

With Nap, if Russia went to war,
'Twas owing, under Providence,
To certain hints Ned gave the Czar---
(Vide his pamphlet---price, sixpence.)

If France was beat at Waterloo---
As all but Frenchmen think she was---
To Ned, as Wellington well know,
Was owing half that day's applause.

Then for his news---no envoy's bag
E'er pass'd so many secrets through it;
Scarcely a regraph could wag
Its wooden finger, but Ned knew it.

Such tales he had of foreign plots,
With foreign names, one's ear to buzz in!
From Russia, chiefs and o's in lots,
From Poland, awks in by the dozen.

When George, alarm'd for England's creed,
Turn'd out the last Whig ministry,
And men ask'd---who advised the deed?
Ned modestly confess'd 'twas he.

For though, by some unlucky miss,
He had not downright seen the King,
He sent such hints through Viscount This,
To Marquis That, as clench'd the thing.

The same it was in science, arts,
The Drama, Books, MS: and printed---
Kean learn'd from Ned his cleverest parts,
And Scott's last work by him was hinted.

"Cailde Harold" in the proofs he read,
And, here and there, infused some soul in't---
Nay, Davy's Lamp, till seen by Ned,
Had---odd enough---an awkward hole in't.

'Twas thus, all-doing and all-knowing,
'Wit, statesman, boxer, chymist, singer,
Wherever was the best pie going,
'Is that Ned---trust him---had his finger.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, July 28, 1906.

THE LATE MR. W. C. BONNERJEA.

We regret very much the death of Mr. Woomesh Chunder Bonnerjea, generally known as Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea. Hard work had undermined his strong health and he suffered long. In spite of his bad health he continued in hard work which he loved so well. He had adopted thoroughly the life of an Englishman and he dies in England, not as a traveller but as a resident. He was born at Kidderpur, Calcutta, on the 29th December 1844. He was so fond of Kidderpur, where his grandfather Pitambar lived and he himself was born, that he built a house there and called it Kidderpur House. When that house was acquired for the Port Commissioners, he bought a house in Park Street and his house in Croydon was named Kidderpur House where he died. When he gave up practising in the Calcutta High Court and retired to England, he did not cease to practise his profession. In the Privy Council he found his field of activity in retirement from Calcutta.

He was a contemporary of the late Mr. Manmohun Ghose, who was senior in age by about ten months and as advocate of the Calcutta High Court by one year and ten months. Not taking into account the late Mr. Ganendra Mohun Tagore, the first Bengli barrister, and the late Mr. Michael Madhusudan Dutt, who saw very little practice in our High Court, Mr. M. Ghose and Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee are the first two Bengalis who grew eminent as barristers. The first showed his pre-eminence in the mofussil and the Appellate Side of the High Court, while the other limited his practice first to the Original Side. Nor did he take to the Appellate Side till long after he had made his reputation in the Original Side. Junior to Mr. Ghose, Mr. Bonnerjee died senior to him. Mr. Ghose died on the 17th October 1856. Mr. Bonnerjee died on the 21st July 1906, or about ten years after.

Mr. Bonnerjee was the first Indian to officiate as Standing Counsel, and he officiated as such four times---between the years 1881 and 1887. But for his adhesion to the Indian National Congress, of which he was the first President, he would have risen higher in the estimation of Government. At first he was not anxious for the post of Standing Counsel, and but for Mr. Pitt-Kennedy who always befriended him, he would have declined the first offer. Though holding no academic title, he was the first member of the Bengal Legislative Council returned by the Calcutta University.

In his Bengal Celebrities, Babu Ram Gopal Sanyal writes (1889):

In 1878, Sir Ashley Eden, then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, thought of appointing Mr. Bonnerjee a member of the Bengal Council, and privately requested the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal to sound him on the subject, but Mr. Bonnerjee respectfully declined the offer. Naturally of a shy and modest disposition, and not much given to fuss and noise, he refused to take his seat on the Bengal Council. In the same way, when the post of a puisne Judge of the High Court fell temporarily vacant in 1881 and 1882, Sir Richard Garth, then Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, did his best to induce him to accept the post, but he declined. And the reason is not far to seek. It is said of Lord Mansfield that he knew no interval between no business and 3,000l. a year, and the same remark holds

good in the case of this Brahmin jurist whose annual income is over a lakh a year.

Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea's grandfather, Babu Pitambar, was connected with an English firm of Attorneys of the late Supreme Court. His father, Babu Greesh Chunder, was a highly respected attorney of the same Court and the High Court. On his mother's side, he was descended from the legal luminary Jagannatha Tarkapanchanana. Law was his inheritance and he practised it and prospered. Sir Arthur George Macpherson, when a Judge of the Bengal High Court, thought that the son was nearing the father. Possessing a fine presence, eyes beaming with intelligence, a capacious memory, and never rude, he carried the day before him.

Though living and dying like an Englishman, educating his children in England and marrying his son and his daughter to Europeans, he never forgot the claims on him of his mother and other relations, for whom he spent liberally. He was a splendid host to his friends. He had always at heart the elevation of the country of his birth and his fore-fathers' and worked for it. As a means to that end, he had tried more than once to enter Parliament. If he were less attentive to his relations and his country, he might have died much richer.

In his life of Mr. Michael Madhusudan Dutt, Babu Jogendra Nath Bose states that the late Mr. Monmohun Ghose paid the funeral expenses of Mrs. Dutt; that he also paid Mr. Dutt's own funeral expenses; and that Mr. Manmohun Ghose was chiefly instrumental in collecting a fund for Mr. Dutt's children. The facts are otherwise, and we make the correction now though the deceased Mr. Bonnerjea was not anxious for it. It was Mr. Bonnerjea who paid the funeral expenses of both Mr. and Mrs. Dutt, although he could ill afford to do so at that time. It was, again, Mr. Bonnerjea, who, with the late Babu Gourdas Bysack, was instrumental in getting up the fund. He administered the fund for a time, and then made it over to Mr. Ghose, who also otherwise helped the family.

Now that both Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the late editor of this journal, and Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea are dead, we publish the following dated 12th October, 1890, from one of Dr. Mookerjee's Note-books:

Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea calls me 'Guruji' and honours me as the Gamaliel at whose feet he sat. In explanation he told me that he had indeed learnt his first lessons in politics from me, although we did not know each other. He referred to my writings in the old 'Hindoo Patriot.' It was known that I was 'Hurris' favourite contributor and Kristodas Pal a principal contributor. As early as 1859 I contributed a couple of leading articles on 'An Indian Parliament' in the 'Hindoo Patriot' of the 7th April and 5th May of that year, and two articles of the same import headed 'A Debate in the English Parliament and Indian Taxation: A Contrast' in the same journal on the 29th August and 5th September (1859). In these I gave expression to the ardent aspiration of the cultivated Indian mind after a National Chamber in India. I showed pretty clearly that that was the goal to which all Indian progress tended. Nothing would satisfy the intelligence and patriotism of the land till that was reached. So long as it was not attained there was no happiness for the true Indian.

The Congress is the reduction to practice of that idea. Bonnerjea sometimes reminds me of my past teaching when he complains of my lukewarmth in regard to the

Congress, though he does me the justice to admit that I am no enemy, but rather a friend, only a prudent friend who deprecates frothy effervescence, violence, crudity and prematurity.

THE HIGH COURT CRIMINAL BENCH.

The Criminal Bench (Mr. Justice Sarada Charan Mitra and Mr. Justice Holmwood) is winning golden opinions. Not only is the Board kept down to a day's work, but the amount of work done is fully up to the average. We remember that, in May and June 1905, the Daily List, like the fabled sea-serpent, trailed its slow length along for yards. There were something like two hundred cases on the Board daily. To-day, the number of defended cases for disposal is, we observe, less than twenty. Expedition is essential in a Criminal Appellate Court, and expedition characterises the Criminal Bench. Prompt redress is obtained by sufferers. It might be supposed that there is not much work. This is not the fact, for a very large number of cases is disposed of. Cases also are dealt with thoroughly; they are not simply disposed of. There have been many very heavy cases, and some with important political aspects. We refer in particular to the case of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea, which was apparently treated in the Muffussil as a test case between the Government and the people. And the people have been victorious. The district authorities in their anxiety to suppress Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea have made themselves ridiculous. The facts of the case are so well-known, that we will not repeat them. We can only wonder how the District Magistrate and the Sessions Judge ever perpetrated the "blunders" they did. The simplest and clearest provisions of the law were altogether disregarded. The record was added to most "improperly" by the Magistrate. The Sessions Judge introduced irrelevant matters when hearing the appeal against the conviction by the District Magistrate; he "partially based his judgment on matters not contained in the record," and "supplemented the record."

One is aghast at such proceedings. This case only shows what we can expect from the Civil Service. The defect—the fatal defect—of that Service is the want of discipline of its members. A young man passes his examination, comes out to India, and finds himself an autocrat. He thinks he can do just as he pleases, regardless of Law or Procedure. He grows up in this belief. He is a law unto himself. It is only when he opposes an entire people, as in the case of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea, that he is rudely awakened; and realises that the Law is superior to him. If officers in the position of a District Magistrate or a Sessions Judge can be guilty of "blunders" in such elementary matters, what are we to expect from junior officers? Were the "blunders" simply "blunders," or were they something worse, and, if worse, then they are surely only the result of a total want of discipline. What will the Government say to the District Magistrate and Sessions Judge? Anything, or are we to realise that our lives and liberties are safe only in the High Court and nowhere else?

Justices Sarada Charan Mitra and Holmwood have fully-maintained the traditions of the High

Court. The high tone and independent spirit of their judgment have given universal satisfaction. Calmly and temperately the judgment lays down the law, exposes the absurd "blunders" (?) of the District Magistrate and Sessions Judge, and thereby shows, to those who read between the lines, what lay behind these "blunders."

Our contemporary the "Bengalee" thinks the High Court should have "admonished" and "reprimanded" the District Magistrate and the Sessions Judge. Well, if the judgment of Mr. Justice Mitra and his colleague does not do that, we do not know what would. Our Boanerges must admit that there are other ways of chastising and teaching besides "Blood and Thunder," and it would, we think, ill become the Majesty of the Law to be violent or immoderate in language or reproof.

The law has vindicated itself calmly, judicially and judiciously, and Bengal feels that her liberties are safe so long as the High Court exists—so long as we have Judges like Mr. Sarada Charan Mitra and Mr. Justice Holmwood.

Mr. Justice Mitra is very popular, in the Court, and outside it. He has the reputation of being very considerate to the profession, and to his subordinates in the Court. His amiable disposition endears him to all his friends, and they are many. A good lawyer; quick, clear-headed and hard working, he is said by many to make an ideal Judge for the Criminal Bench as does his colleague, Mr. Justice Holmwood, who is well known for his amiability, and conscientiousness.

THE FAMINE INSURANCE FUND.

THE Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture has replied to the representation of the British Indian Association regarding the severe distress in Eastern Bengal. In the second paragraph of the reply, the following sentence occurs: "although there is no separate Famine Relief Fund such as is referred to in your letter, the Lieutenant-Governor has at his disposal sufficient resources to meet the needs of the occasion." It is a pity that high Government officials should hold such an opinion. It is opposed to general belief. The new Viceroy should not in any way be kept in the dark as to the actual state of things. About the existence of a separate Famine Relief Fund, we quote below the following from official and other known sources. First, from Lady Betty Balfour's work on her father, "Lord Lytton's Indian Administration" (Longmans Green, 1899) page 493-495:—"Up to this time the Government of India had treated famines empirically, as they occurred, not on a settled principle; but it now became clear that they were not to be looked upon as exceptional calamities, but as events liable and certain to recur, and that provision must be made for their prevention and relief out of the ordinary revenue, and not by borrowing....." Lord Lytton in his speech in the Legislative Council on February 9, 1878, said: "Undoubtedly the taxes which will come into operation by the passing of the Bills before us must, to be successful, have a wide incidence..... But Sir J. Strachey has already shown that it would be a gross misrepresentation of the present licence tax to say that it falls only on the very poor; and, indeed, as a matter of fact,

this tax touches no section of the community which can be regarded or rated as other than a well-to-do class..... We have felt that the two great classes of the community from whom we could most equitably collect our Famine Insurance Fund are the trading and agricultural classes. The necessity of a Famine Insurance Fund, and the duty of Government to provide such a fund, have been generally acknowledged. But equally general must be, I think, the acknowledgment that in the selection of our sources of this fund, which are necessarily limited, we could not, with any show of reason or justice, have maintained the agricultural class in Bengal had we shrunk from subjecting to a similar obligation the agricultural classes in other provinces of Northern India. Nor is it less undeniable that, from the same point of view and for the same reason, we could not justly maintain the licence tax upon the trading classes of Lower Bengal. I think, then, I may fairly claim for the measures now before the Council at least the modest merit of an equitable distribution of famine charges between the two great classes of the community best able to bear them, and on whom such charges most reasonably fall."

Lady B. Balfour writes (P. 497): "Whatever calamity may rise to sweep away the surplus and land the Government of India in deficit the amount of that deficit must be less than it would otherwise have been by exactly the amount brought into the Treasury by the taxes imposed in 1877-78 to create the Famine Insurance Fund."

Mr. C. E. Buckland, C.I.E., in his "Dictionary of Indian Biography" (London, Swan Sonnenschein & Co., 1906) says under Lytton:—"The Famine Commission sat, and the system of 'famine insurance' was established."

The report of the Famine Commission of 1898, P. 324, has about the imposition of new taxes to create a Famine Relief and Insurance Fund:—"The simple object was, in fact, to provide so far as possible an annual surplus of one and a half crores, for famine relief in famine insurance expenditure. To the extent to which, any year, the amount was not spent on relief, it was to be spent solely on reduction of debt, or rather avoidance of debt, which is the same thing."

Mr. R. C. Dutt in his "India in the Victorian Age" (London, Kegan Paul, 1904), page 597, remarks:—

The Famine Relief and Insurance taxes have also taken the form of additional imposts on the land. To keep these taxes is only to add to the poverty of the people, and the severity of the famines; to repeal them would be to give the agricultural population some relief. For the best insurance against famines is to permanently improve the condition of the cultivators, and to secure them against a multitude of imposts upon the land already severely taxed for the Land Revenue.

The form of taxation for the Fund and the uses to which it is to be put, may have undergone changes by fresh legislation, but it can hardly be denied that such a Fund, was created by a fresh imposition which is continued to this day.

While not wholly admitting the existence of the Fund and the responsibility thrown on Government by the Fund, the Government of India are prepared to throw a share of their burden on the Zemindars. The reply concludes thus:

I am to add that the Government of India trust that

the British Indian Association will use its influence to induce the landowners and other well-to-do inhabitants of the distressed districts to aid their poorer neighbours, not only by assisting the local officers in the distribution of relief, but also by suspending and remitting rents, by refraining for the present from bringing suits for arrears, by making liberal loans, and by an extension of their private charities.

THE SECRETARY.

It has become a fashion to put every unpleasant load on the shoulders of the Secretaries. Mr. C. B. A., a Bombay Civilian, wrote years ago an anonymous pamphlet against the late Honourable Mr. Nugent, in connection with the Forest Rules. Sir F. S. P. Lely, C.S., I.K.C.I.E., the popular Commissioner who after retirement writes a book called "Suggestions for the Better Governing of India," throws sharp arrows against the Secretaries. In page 103 he says: "It is seldom that the Secretariate realises two under currents—one is the constant bribe-mongering, (I will not call it by so grave a name as corruption), the love of interfering, and the perfunctoriness of the average native subordinates, and the other is the jealousy among themselves, which stifles public business and makes the people's convenience quite secondary. Nothing can repress this detestable spirit like a common superior." Even in the last page of his book he utters an insinuation—"Doubtless much that has been written above could be pulverised by a clever Under-Secretary, to his own complete satisfaction; which may merely mean that insight does not depend on logic, but on intuition, and that again comes only of human contact." Sir F. Lely was perhaps never a Secretary, and, therefore, the following verse is quoted for his edification:—

*Jalmaddhe masa pohalase karsa ; Jave tyache vansa,
temsha kale.*

He knows the language well, but to other readers a translation would be useful. It is:—"How a fish can live in water can only be learnt by going to its birth." The Secretaries are not independent officers. They have to see (1) that the gist of the original proposal from the Head of the Department is patent, that the matter is curtailed and brought within the scope of a short note, that the previous papers are not neglected, and that the last similar case is prominently marked, to prevent contradictory orders and open ridicule. He has to see that his Government does not suffer any loss in cash or prestige, he has to spare any comments on the decisions of the former heads of the Government without ignoring what they have written. He has to run in the same groove with the present Chief for fear of being sent back to Madras after only a fortnight's trial, and he has to escape the lynx eyes of the discontented portion of the clerical staff. It is impossible to please every body, and as the direct subordinate of his Chief, the Secretary is bound to carry into effect the decisions of his Chief or to write in consonance with his well-known convictions. The writer of this note had a talk with an ex-Political Agent about an ex-Secretary in a Native State where the latter was accused of being "one of the bad advisers of the Maharaja whose services have been prohibited in the State." The Political laughed outright and added, "Why, the Maharaja was above all advice. I can testify to that" and yet the Secretary suffered—the Secretary who had simply to carry out the orders of the Maharaja as conveyed through the Darbar by the Minister. The Minister, however, is not blamed. On the contrary, he gets promotion, power, medals and honours of the Indian Empire Order. Such is the position of a Secretary. A Simla lady correspondent of a contemporary indulges in scandals, abuse of the Viceroy, and vituperations against the Secretaries, simply because a white soldier was hanged by order of the High Court for committing a murder. There is caste everywhere and she is no exception to human nature. She freely throws insinuations against a Chief Commissioner, a Legal Remembrancer, a High Court the Home Secretary and the Home Member. Her language towards the Viceroy is certainly not what one should expect from a lady of culture. If she thinks that by spreading broadcast such rotten stuff in defiance of all decency she can do any

harm to the honest Secretaries and Judges, she is greatly mistaken. None but foolish zealots, blind to all considerations except that of race, may skip it over, but their innermost conscience must forcibly remind them that the lower stratum of European writers living in India is rotten to the core when it defends unblushingly the murder of a native by a soldier, and decries all Secretaries, who have to remain dutiful to their chiefs. They are like our Indranis, who have to keep pleased every Indra—that falls to their lot at every change. No sane writer should therefore fall foul of the Secretaries who are but the reflections, for the time being, of their Governors. But the worst stroke is reserved for a lady of position involving in it her honourable husband against whom there is not the slightest society scandal.

THE second visit of Lord Curzon to India as Viceroy was delayed by the serious illness of Lady Curzon. She recovered and followed her Lord to India. Their stay for the second time was not long. Lord Curzon resigned his great office before time and returned home with Lady Curzon. It is not yet a year. Lady Curzon fell ill again and died suddenly. That death is a great blow to our ex-Viceroy and is regretted in India. Whatever may be said of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty, Lady Curzon had always the good wishes of every section of the Indian community. Her sudden and premature death adds to the sorrow.

THE Indian staff of the E. I. Ry., from Howrah to Burdwan struck work during the week. They are not yet reconciled. Their catalogue of grievances runs up to 32 in number. They complain of ill or not good treatment and inadequate remuneration. Europeans and Eurasians are working in the places of the Indians. The Railway officials say that the cause of the strike is more political than anything else. Recently the strike of the Indian staff, especially the Bengalees, on different lines, has been more frequent than before. The thinking members of the community have found after all that the people in order to better their condition must look to themselves and not to this or that Government. There must be united action to remove the ills they suffer from. They have found, to quote the words of the present ruler of Baroda, "that the law of this world requires struggle and self-sacrifice as the purchase-money of success, and will extort every penny of the price before it gives an adequate return." It is really a sacrifice on the part of the strikers to leave work at a time when the price of food is very high.

THE Annual Assam Dinner was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, on the 27th June. Sir James Buckingham presided. He referred to the Partition of Bengal, thus:

To commence with, he must allude to the territorial change or perhaps he ought to say aggrandisement, which had taken place in Assam. Eastern Bengal and Assam would now have a much more efficient administration. ('No, no' and 'hear, hear,') It would no doubt benefit a great deal by having more officers, and also, he thought, there would be more funds available. There was no doubt that in days gone by Assam was looked upon with disfavour, and it was said to be a dumping ground for inefficients. (Laughter.)

The recent territorial change is no partition of Bengal but aggrandisement of Assam, in spite of the name Eastern Bengal and Assam. According to Sir James Buckingham, it is the absorption of Eastern Bengal by Assam. Then, the proper course would have been to call the new Province only Assam. In fact, the change is the raising of the Chief-Commissionership of Assam into a Lieutenant Governorship, and therefore the Province is really Assam.

THE English phrase for wife is—better half. Lord Curzon raised that better half to better three-quarters. The Gaekwar of Baroda would limit his Maharani to half of himself—no better or worse. Mr. H. C. Bose, the perfumer, goes beyond. It is reported that, at a famine collection, he paid Rs. 10 and his wife Rs. 15.

A CONTEMPORARY writes:

"We are sorry to notice that the number of murder cases is steadily increasing in this city. The Calcutta Police should take every care to detect and bring the culprits to justice. Exemplary punishment should be inflicted in order that they might act as a deterrent."

On whom is the exemplary punishment to fall? For murder, the punishment is usually capital. Is there to be a higher punishment than death or transportation? Certainly, the police should be able to find out every culprit and murderer.

THE surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. Kingham, Missionaries, who, with their eldest child, were murdered at Nanchang in February last, has been paid by the Chinese Government £4,700, or, say, Rs. 70,000.

LORD Kingaburgh, speaking at the Glasgow luncheon to representatives of foreign electrical engineers, said that ladies had been practising wireless telegraphy ever since he knew them. There was more to be had in the way of inspiration and instruction in the glance of a lady's eye than in all the wireless telegraphy ever invented.

DURING the fashionable hour in Hyde Park a couple of young ladies were seen riding astride, and urging their spirited horses to the top of their speed. The "outfit" of the fair riders included rough feather boots reaching to the knee; there was, in fact, a suggestion of youthful Buffalo Bill about them. They seemed to be enjoying themselves greatly. Behind them rode a stiff and solemn groom.

THE Hongkong Botanical Garden's Report for 1905 contains the following particulars about bamboo Paper:— This is the usual paper used by the Chinese for wrapping up parcels and is produced and sold in very large quantities in many parts of Southern China. The manufacture was investigated at Buong Kang in Fokien Province where a flourishing paper mill exists. The bamboo called Ma Deuk is the variety used. This is a bamboo (*Phyllostachys*, sp.) 20-50 ft. high, having a downy stem when young. It is cut into convenient lengths and laid in concrete tanks of water for about four months. After that period the material is carefully removed by hand as it becomes ready and is pulped in a water mill. These mills, which are used for all kinds of pounding, consists of an overshot wheel about 10 ft. in diameter. The axle carries a wooden cam which alternately raises and releases the pounder. The pulp is subsequently taken into the factory as a fibrous mass, the fragments being about 1 inch long. They are there mixed with water forming a thin muddy liquid. The water contains a building ingredient or size made from the leaves of various plants, among which were an *Actinidia*, a *Holly*, a species of *Lauraceae*, and a *Schizandra*. From this liquid the fibre is removed in thin films on a delicate tray of bamboo threads supported on a bamboo frame. Each film is a sheet of paper and only needs to be dried—first on a hot surface and then in a strong lever press—to be ready for market.

DR. Albert Tafel, the eminent German geologist and explorer, who has travelled in many parts of Asia, and who took part in the expedition to Tibet in 1904 with Lieutenant Filchreer, when they barely escaped with their lives, has again just left China for the Tsaidam and Tibet.

London, July 20. Mr. Morley in introducing the Indian Budget said there were abundant signs that the New Parliament recognised its responsibility for the Government of India. To some, Indian policy meant Persia, the North-West Frontier and opium, out the question demanded a far more comprehensive survey. England was no longer concerned in dynastic quarrels over territorial divisions in Europe, her policy being transformed into an Asiatic policy. The false step in South Africa had landed England in inextricable confusion but a false step in India would be still more disastrous. Mr. Morley deprecated placing the salary of the Secretary of State upon the estimates, because India should be excluded from party considerations and party vote. He con-

sidered the figures of the Budget cheerful, but was unable to regard with satisfaction the high salt tax. Although the question could not be settled with a stroke of the pen, he was glad that the Financial Members held that a reduction was possible. Mr. Morley said that he would like to abolish it altogether but must be content with half a loaf. Mr. Morley said that the Viceroy appoints a small commission to consider what reforms can be expediently made relating to the extension of the representative element in the legislative council.

Mr. Morley referred to Lord Curzon's passionate devotion to and the interest he took in India, and deeply sympathised with him in his desolation. He then discussed Military expenditure and said there was every reason to be satisfied with the prudence of the decision recorded in his Despatch of February. Until the active correspondence with the Government of India, which involves decisions by the Imperial Defence Committee, matures, it would be unprofitable to make a statement. He refused to accept the theory that India was an insoluble problem and thought a stage had been reached in the gradual working out of Indian Policy which made it wise to advance with a firm and courageous step some paces further along the path of improvement. He said: "I can't understand why anybody is frightened at the aspirations of the Congress." It had been said that more sympathy was wanted. That did not mean markish sentimentality, but a manly desire to comprehend the men, they, for good or ill, had undertaken to govern. "I don't believe for a moment it is possible to transplant British institutions wholesale, but the spirit and temper thereof can be transferred." He rejoiced to say the Government of India were earnest in the direction he had indicated, but there must be no precipitance. He adverted to the present limitation of time allowed for the discussion of the Budget in Calcutta and the power of moving amendments to the Viceroy's financial proposals. He hoped before the end of the Session to be able to inform the House of the definite results of the Viceroy's Commission for the extension of the representative system. A definite move ought to be taken to give competent and tried natives the same access to higher administrative posts as Englishmen. The Government of India must remain personal, almost absolute, but that was a reason for making the Administration more effective by free speech and free meeting.

Earl Percy congratulated Mr. Morley on his statement and deprecated any counting on Russian weakness.

Mr. Rees urged pressure in favour of Indians in Natal. Sir Henry Fowler said that India was one of the finest monuments of English rule anywhere. He agreed with Mr. Morley in opposing the placing of the Secretary of State's salary on the estimates. They could not devise a system of Government from this side which would be an improvement on the complete form in India.

Sir Henry Cotton protested against the expenditure for Military purposes. Mr. Keir Hardie's motion to place the Secretary of State's salary on the estimates was then rejected and the Budget adopted.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Keir Hardie's motion for placing the Secretary of State for India's salary on the estimates was rejected by one hundred and fifty-three against eighty-nine votes. The majority included thirty-four Unionists who thus averted the defeat of the Government. The minority comprised the Laborites and Nationalists.

London, July 21. The newspapers this morning unanimously praise Mr. Morley's Indian Budget Speech. The Conservative papers pay a tribute to his masterly vindication of the success of British rule in India. The Liberal papers emphasise the opening of a new epoch of reform in India, though the "Daily News" wishes that Mr. Morley had taken a further step in initiating a real and impartial enquiry into the whole problem of Indian Government with a view of pursuing an effective reform of a policy which was often conflicting with the official element.

London, July 22. As a result of the meeting of the Ministerial Council yesterday, at which the Tsar presided, His Imperial Majesty has issued a Ukase dissolving the Duma, and ordering the convocation of a new Duma on the 5th of March, 1907.

The Tsar's ukase relieves the Premier Goremykin of his post and appoints instead the Minister of the Interior, M. Stolypin, who retains the Ministry of the Interior. The decision to dissolve the Duma was reached by the Council of the Empire presided over by the Tsar sitting late last night at Peterhof. The Grand Dukes, Mr. Trepoff and the Court officials were present.

Troops are being massed at St. Petersburg, Moscow and other centres in addition to the Guard Regiments, which marched in to St. Petersburg on Thursday. All the proletarian organisations have completed preparations for a pacific general strike.

M. Vischinski, Russian Minister of Agriculture, has resigned. The Duma building is closed and is guarded by the police, who refuse members admission.

The Embassies are guarded by troops. A state of extraordinary defence has been proclaimed.

Signs of dissension have reappeared in the Russian army. Cavalry have been sent to Kronstadt where a ferment has broken out in the garrison.

A meeting of 2,500 blue-jackets held at Sevastopol drew up demands for presentation to Admiral Skrydloff which unless fulfilled the whole of the sailors of the Black Sea Fleet will revolt.

St. Petersburg is swarming with troops and the railways and post offices are closed. There was some rioting yesterday evening and troops were called out. Most of the members of the Duma have gone to Finland to discuss the situation.

The Tsar in a manifesto concerning the dissolution of the Duma says the Duma has greatly disappointed expectations and instead of practical work it undertook illegal action beyond its sphere. The Tsar promises to give necessitous peasants the means of enlarging their lands and intends enforcing obedience to law.

The English and European Press are unanimous in condemning the dissolution of the Duma as ill-considered, unjustifiable and ruinous.

The price of Russian Stocks has fallen heavily.

Sir H. Campbell, Bannerman in welcoming the Parliamentary Conference expressed the King's and Government's sympathies with its objects and especially greeted the members of the Duma, exclaiming "Duma, est mort, vive Duma." Prolonged cheering followed this. The Dumaists announced they were returning to Russia immediately to join in the struggle.

The majority of Dumaists have gone to Viborg, where they are discussing the Manifesto. St. Petersburg is quiet. Police and troops are everywhere. Several papers have been suppressed.

July 24. The Dumaists have issued a manifesto from Viborg exhorting the people to refuse to pay taxes or perform military service.

The Jews throughout Russia are apprehensive of further massacres. Cossacks have begun looting at Odessa and the Jews are panic-stricken.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's reference to the Duma in his opening address to the Parliamentary Conference is the theme of general comment in Conservative papers, which denounce it as a colossal blunder. Liberal papers are enthusiastic in their laudation of the daring phrase which will echo throughout the world.

The looting at Odessa ceased last mid-night. The same streets were affected as in the massacre of 1905. The panic is indescribable. Governor-General Kuibors told a trembling deputation of the Jews, that if a single Cossack was wounded Odessa would run knee-deep in blood.

The Dumaists have returned to St. Petersburg unmolested. The Viborg conference decided to form vast organizations with the object of turning the army against the Government.

A renewed aggravated disturbance has taken place at Odessa. A number of Jews were killed. The town is panic-stricken and the inhabitants fleeing. Russian stocks continue to fall.

July 25. All the papers at St. Petersburg except the "Novoe Vremya," and the semi-official "Rossia," have been suppressed yesterday.

Hundreds of arrests were made in St. Petersburg and Moscow and a number of clubs closed.

Hitherto eight Jews have been killed and eleven wounded at Odessa.

The Board of Trade has warned ship-owners that the Russian Government has decided to inspect and arrest any vessels suspected of gun running.

July 25. The moderate Dumaists have issued an appeal to the people to submit to the Tsar's will and prepare new selections. It would be criminal to strike against the Imperial Power during the present crisis. The wholesale suppression of newspapers and arrests continue throughout Russia.

Ten thousand Jews encamped at night at Odessa fearing to return to their homes. The attempt to provoke massacre was apparently of local origin and was suppressed by orders from St. Petersburg.

July 26. Yesterday was generally quiet in Russia. The labour organizations are restraining workmen and discouraging a premature strike. An official statement published at St. Petersburg justifies the dissolution of the Duma, because from the outset it overstepped the limit of the law, consistently discredited Government, attempted to usurp the executive power and raised unrealistic hopes by the Agrarian programme.

Russian Stocks are recovering.

July 27. M. Stolypin, the Russian Premier, granted an interview to Reuter's representative yesterday, in the course of which he said the Tsar was resolved on a policy of strong-handed reform. Reaction was farthest from the Tsar's wishes but the revolutionaries must be thwarted. M. Stolypin said he relied upon the innate patriotism of the mass of the nation and believed the Tsar's appeal thereto would result in the extinction or effective repression of anarchical forces. When the Cabinet was complete he would produce an exhaustive programme, covering the land question. No steps would be taken against the Dumaists unless they attempt to agitate. The Tsar, he added, dissolved the Duma with the utmost reluctance, when he found nothing useful was to be expected therefrom.

Strict censorship on foreign newspapers has been re-introduced at St. Petersburg.

SCARCITY IN EASTERN BENGAL.

Minutes of Conference held at Barisal on the 8th June 1906.

Present:—Mr. H. LeMaurier, Commissioner, Dacca Division, Mr. T. Emerson, Collector, Bakarganj, Babu Akhn Chandra Roy (Deputy Collector), Biba Dyendra Mohan Sen and Maulvi Abdul Basid (Sub-Deputy Collectors).

Babu Dyendra Mohan Sen has been continuously employed on loan enquiries since September last and has visited the thanas of Tushkhali and Matari in Pirojpur and of Gournadi, Rajapur, Nalchiti and Kotwali in Sadar. Maulvi Abdul Basid has been touring since March 21 in thana Gournadi of Bakarganj, Jhalakati, Rajapur and Nalchiti. Prices at present stand at 7½ seers per rupee. At Barisal, whereas 9 seers is, according to the quinquennial statement, 40 per cent. above the normal. These prices are attributed to successive shortage in both aus and aman crops for the past two years. Last year, owing to excessive rain in April and May, sowing and transplantation were very largely interfered with, and the whole crop was estimated at not more than 50 per cent. of an average crop. Prices have recently further risen owing to the rise in the price of Rangoon rice, and it is further certain that the local stocks are being held up in Pirojpur against a possible failure of the winter rice crop owing to appearance of "Pama" moka in the aman seedlings. For same insect has also attacked the aman seedlings in Patnakhali and the aus seedlings in Rajapur. The Government Entomologist has been invited down, and after studying the insect promises to make suggestions for removing it.

2. During the past year Rs. 22,000 altogether were advanced as agriculturists' loans, and this year the Collector's initial estimate was Rs. 26,500. Of this sum, Rs. 15,000 were actually allotted by the Commissioner from funds received from the Board of Revenue. But Rs. 20,000 have actually been advanced, distributed as follows:—

| | Rs. | | Rs. |
|--------------|--------|----------------|-------|
| Sadar ... | 10,000 | Patnakhali ... | 4,000 |
| Pirojpur ... | 1,500 | Bhola ... | 4,500 |

It is, however, reported that the people have been refusing to receive loans in Bhola as being too small, and the saving thus effected will be retransferred to Sadar.

3. The Sub-Deputy Collectors have made the following recommendations to be allotted in loans:—Maulvi Abdul Basid for Gournadi Rs. 6,000, for Bakarganj Rs. 1,400 or Pirojpur and Nalchiti small sum, in all about Rs. 8,000. Babu Dyendra Nath Sen recommends for Gournadi Rs. 13,000, for Kotwali Rs. 2,000, but he has about 600 applications still undisposed of, and the Maulvi has about 400 more. It is to be remarked that some of these are believed to be duplicate. The greatest demand is for Gournadi, where Rs. 7,000 have already been disbursed besides Rs. 6,000 issued last year, and whence many demands are still received. It is believed that there are about 6,000 undisposed applications in Pirojpur, and that these generally come from the bhil country about Sarupkati. It is considered best to withdraw these petitions from the Subdivisional Officer of Pirojpur and those of thana Baukati from the Subdivisional Officer, Patnakhali, and let them be disposed of by the Sub-Deputy from Sadar.

4. The purposes for which loans are sought are purchase of seed and hire of plough-cattle. Owing to the exceptional dryness of the soil, there is now an excellent opportunity for ploughing and sowing in the Gournadi and Sarupkati thanas, and the necessity for advance is therefore urgent in those areas.

5. The Commissioner has already informed the Board that the Collector requires the whole of the Rs. 26,500 originally estimated for by him, and it is now proposed to telegraph for a further allotment of Rs. 20,000; in addition, the Commissioner hopes to be able to transfer from the sums allotted to Faridpur sufficient to make the total provision for this district amount to Rs. 50,000. The Collector may at once expend a further sum of

Rs. 10,000 in anticipation of sanction. The loans should continue to be made in sums of Rs. 10, but in the case of large family or for other special reasons may be increased to Rs. 20, or even Rs. 30 where the security is good.

6. Other measures of relief.—The District Board have already started the works, to be carried out by local labour at ordinary coolie rates. The Polordi-Gaila road is attracting labour freely. The Patharhat road in Mendiganj is, however, not much resorted to, and this fact confirms the general inference that the true distress is confined to the neighbourhood of the hills.

7. Enquiries were made as to distress among pardanishin women, widows, orphans, children, the crippled and infirm and beggars. So far it is reported that private charity has not entirely ceased. The necessity for gratuitous relief of these classes by the District Board has not yet arisen, but the point should be carefully watched. Should necessity arise, relief should be given in food strictly according to the Famine Code scale. Attempts might also be made to issue dhan for husking at home by women on the system adopted in Faridpur in 1894 by Mr. Beatson Bell.

8. The District Engineer should be asked to report the number of works now open and the number of persons dependent on them. Should, however, labour be necessary during the rain in August and September, when earthwork must cease, employment may be found by clearing tanks of weeds and sedges as was done in 1894. In this case the wages will have to be calculated according to the Famine Code scale from the very beginning.

9. It is not time yet to form distress committees or invite public subscriptions. Fortnightly reports should be sent to the Commissioner.

10. If possible, it would be extremely desirable to encourage the import of Rangoon rice, but it is doubtful whether any firm can be got to do this.

H. LeMesurier,
Offg. Commissioner.

No 6439C., dated Shillong, the 29th June 1906.

From—P. C. Lyon, Esq., I. C. S. Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 5903C., dated the 16th June 1906, on the subject of the distress that has arisen in certain districts in Eastern Bengal owing to the extraordinarily high price of common rice, I am desired to forward herewith copies of the papers noted in the margin, in which the Collectors of the four districts of the Dacca Division have reported upon the present state of affairs in their districts.

2. It will be observed that, as noted in my previous letter, the trouble is practically limited to the low-lying bhil areas in Faridpur and Bakarganj, though many people are feeling the pinch of the high prices in other parts of these districts. Since the receipt of these reports, however, there has been a perceptible easing of prices which have fallen slightly in several of the districts of Eastern Bengal.

3. The measures of relief which are being taken by the local officers under the instructions of Government, referred to in my letter quoted above, have been set out in the reports. In view of the probable necessity for some form of relief for the women and children in out of the way villages in the bhil tract, which is intensified by the prejudice which prevents their taking up ordinary manual labour, arrangements have been made to employ them on dhan husking and for gratuitous relief, where that is required. It has been reported from Bakarganj, by wire on the 25th instant, that only 613 persons have, at present, come on to the test and relief works.

4. The Government of India will doubtless note that the crops now standing on the ground, both rice and jute, are reported to be exceptionally good. In the southern parts of Bakarganj, however, the cultivators are almost wholly dependent upon the aman or late rice crop, and it is possible that the tension will be somewhat more prolonged in these areas.

5. The Commissioner of the Division has impressed upon his district officers, in accordance with the views of this Government, that agricultural loans should be liberally distributed, provided that joint security is given. The condition thus exacted is proving useful as a test of real distress.

6. A report upon the present state of affairs in the Chittagong Division will be submitted at a very early date.

No. 657G., dated Dacca, the 15th June 1906.

From—H. LeMesurier, Esq., C.I.E., I. C. S., Offg. Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

With reference to the Government telegram of the 11th June 1906, I have the honour to submit herewith the reports received from Dacca and Mymensingh as noted on the margin. My consolidated report will follow as soon as I get the Faridpur report. I have reported separately on Bakarganj.

No. 849, dated Dacca, the 8th June 1906.

From—B. C. Allen, Esq., I. C. S., Collector of Dacca.

To—The Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

I have the honour to forward a copy of the correspondence I have had with the Subdivisional Officer of Munshiganj on the subject of the relief of scarcity.

2. I have visited Munshiganj and discussed the matter with him, and it is, I fear, necessary to make some provision for the relief of beggars in that densely-populated pargana. The money required will be provided, (a) from a small fund of about Rs. 2,000 under the control of the Subdivisional Officer which was collected for the relief of distress, (b) from a fund of about Rs. 32,000 lying to the credit of the District Board, which is the remains of a fund raised in 1874, with interest thereon.

No. 129, dated Munshiganj, the 1st June 1906.

From—The Subdivisional Officer of Munshiganj.

To—The Magistrate of Dacca.

I have the honour to report that of late there has been some indication of the situation as regards the prevailing scarcity becoming serious. I have been receiving reports about destitute families in the interior being almost on the verge of starvation. These mostly belong to respectable families with no adult male members to support them and too proud to appear in public and ask for charity. They would prefer suffering silently to coming forward and ask for public charity. The other class of people who also appear to be the greatest sufferers are the professional beggars. They do not nowadays get anything by begging. Only yesterday about 200 beggars besieged me and bewailed their lot, some of them had not taken any food for two days. They are all women and young children. They would on no account be made to leave my house, and I had at last to distribute among them 3 maunds and 16 seers of rice. It is apprehended that the distress will continue for a month and a half, and the situation will become more and more serious. Under the circumstances, I beg to ask if some measures should not be adopted to grant relief. Unfortunately, the season for starting any relief work in the shape of excavation of tanks or construction of roads is over. Whatever is now done would therefore be in the shape of public charity, for which the Government may contribute share and the rest raised by public subscription. An early reply is solicited.

No. 832, dated Dacca, the 8th June 1906.

From—B. C. Allen, Esq., I. C. S., Collector of Dacca.

To—The Subdivisional Officer of Munshiganj.

With reference to your letter No. 129, dated the 1st instant, I have the honour to say that, after discussing the matter with you and with the Presidents, I have drafted the enclosed set of instructions for your guidance. The Presidents in whose Unions the beggars whom we saw reside should be given advances from the fund at your disposal in proportions to the number of persons entrusted to their charge. Further assistance will if necessary be given by the District Board.

2. On reconsideration, I have come to the conclusion that the rice will have to be sold by the Presidents at Rs. 5 per maund. The Presidents should purchase paddy in the cheapest markets, but at Munshiganj the price of paddy is at present out of all proportion to the price of rice. Yesterday paddy was selling there at 11 seers per rupee. Eleven seers of paddy will only yield 7½ seers of rice. Yet husked Rangoon rice could be obtained at the rate of 8 seers to the rupee. I understand, however, that boro paddy can be purchased at the rate of 14 seers to the rupee, though it was not on sale at Munshiganj Bazar. We thus save nothing by this system of husking paddy, but by compelling the people to work it will act as some check on the applications for assistance. I could not help feeling that many of the women I saw yesterday might not unreasonable be included in the category of "sturdy beggars." It is the custom of the country for Villagers to support their own poor people, and we should be careful to do nothing to encourage these persons to come upon the rates.

3. The first thing for the Presidents to do is to prepare the nominal rolls of distressed persons in their Unions, and they should submit to you for transmission to me a statement showing the number of (a) workers, (b) dependents on workers, (c) non-working adults, (d) dependents on workers, with an estimate of the daily cost of giving relief to these people.

4. I need hardly say that Presidents should wait till persons apply to them before entering them on the list, and that these instructions for relief work should only be issued to Presidents who report of their own motion to you that they are really needed. Well-to-do gentlemen in the Bikrampur pargana should be encouraged to exercise more than their usual liberality towards their needy neighbours on this occasion. The aus crop at present promises well, and the present scarcity will I hope be considerably alleviated by the end of July. Jute will also by that time be putting money in the pockets of the people.

The persons to be dealt with can be divided into the following classes:—

(1) Able-bodied males.—These persons should be directed to come to the District Engineer at Dacca, where work and temporary quarters will be provided for them. They will receive there the usual wage of annas 5 a day.

(2) Able-bodied women.—The President should first ascertain whether the woman has any person able to support her and bound by the custom of the country to do so. I yesterday saw several young women who had been deserted by their husbands. They should be sent to the Subdivisional Officer, who will proceed against the husbands under section 488, Criminal Procedure Code. Similarly, the President should put pressure on brothers or other relatives to induce them to support their female relatives.

(3) Other able-bodied women should be employed on the husking of rice. The President will be given an advance from which he will purchase a stock of paddy. The daily allowance to be given to each woman is 20 seers. This will be issued to her every day or every week, as is found to be most convenient. From this 20 seers of paddy the woman will be required to husk out 13 seers of rice. From this 13 seers of rice she will be allowed to make the following deductions per diem:—

For herself 12 chittaks.

For every adult person dependent on her 10 chittaks.

For every child not fit to work:—

Over 10 but under 14, 8 chittaks.

" 7 " " 10, 6 "

Under 7, 4 "

The balance of the rice will be made over to President.

(4) The President will dispose of this rice as follows:—

(a) He will distribute it free of charge at the daily rates shown in the preceding paragraph to persons who are so old, ill, deformed or idiotic that they are unable to work, and have no one to support them.

(b) He will sell the balance at the rate of Rs. 5 per maund to other persons.

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5. The money obtained from the sale of rice will be devoted to the purchase of more paddy.

6. For the women who are employed on husking paddy and for the persons who are granted gratuitous relief the President will prepare a nominal roll in the enclosed form. Accounts in the enclosed form will also have to be maintained.

The 20th July 1906.

The following summary of the reports received from local officers up to July 15th is published for general information:—

In Dacca and Mymensingh money is being advanced to cultivators in the shape of agricultural loans, and casual charitable relief is being afforded, but it has not been found necessary to open test works or to organise any extended system of gratuitous relief.

In Faridpur the condition of the people is steadily improving. Agricultural loans are being given out and charitable relief is being distributed at various centres by local committees.

In Bakarganj there are 1,735 persons on test works and 3,200 persons are in receipt of gratuitous relief. Nearly half the district is affected by the scarcity and village panchayats have been supplied with funds for the relief of about 5000 destitute persons. Enquiries show that this measure of gratuitous relief should prove adequate. Provision has been made at the same time at numerous local centres for the employment of labourers who are in need of work, but the numbers resorting to these works are not likely to be considerable. Charitable relief is also being afforded at various village centres. Agricultural loans are being freely given, an increased allotment having been sanctioned for the purpose, and nearly Rs. 50,000 were distributed in this manner between the 7th and the 14th July. These loans are greatly appreciated, but only small sums are asked for, as the pressure will abate very materially in a month's time when the early rice crop is harvested. A complete staff of Charge Superintendents and Circle Officers has been organised for the supervision of the local relief agencies and the collection of information.

In Tippera measures have been taken similar to those in Bakarganj, but on a lesser scale. In this district there are about 50 persons on test works and 1,500 on the gratuitous relief lists, while Rs. 12,000 were distributed in agricultural loans during the week ending July 14th.

In Noakhali there are only a few persons on the test works that have been opened, and accurate figures have not yet been obtained as to the numbers gratuitously relieved, but they are not considerable.

The early rice and jute crops promise very well throughout Eastern Bengal, and some of the early rice has already been harvested and has come into the market, causing a slight fall in prices.

The general health of the people continues to be good and the mortality returns show that the death-rates in June were low in all the above districts.

P. C. Lyon,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

(From the Annual Sanitary Report of the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the year 1905.)

1. Meteorology.—Price of food-grains and their connection with vital statistics.—The reports from the districts show that the year 1905 commenced with an unusually cold wave all over the province. This extended well into the hot season, and the temperature in April, May, and June was below the normal.

The rainfall was about normal in Cachar and Svlhet, but excessive over the lower part of the Brahmaputra Valley and parts of Bengal. Very heavy floods were reported from Kamrup Goalpara, Mymensingh, and Faridpur (the districts bordering on the banks of the Brahmaputra, and the upper portions of the Meghna), which did more or less damage of the crops.

In some of the districts of Bengal, viz.—Dacca, Bakarganj, Bogra, Tippera, Malda and Mymensingh, the price of grain was higher than usual, and there was some scarcity, partly owing to shortage of the rice crop, and partly, I am told, to the cultivators selling their stocks of grain to such an extent that they had not sufficient for their own consumption, and were forced to repurchase at a higher price.

A severe epidemic of cholera swept over the lower districts of Bengal, and up into the Brahmaputra Valley as far as Kamrup and the Mangaldai subdivision of Tezpur. It was at its height during the months of October, November, and December, and it seems to have been intimately connected with the unusually heavy floods.

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Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its pamper days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression on Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed in Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

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certain schools which had been guilty of grave misconduct. Sir Bampfylde Fuller will be succeeded by the Hon'ble Mr. Lancelot Hare, at present Acting Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The Hon'ble Mr. Francis A. Slacke will temporarily act as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal until the return of the Hon'ble Sir Andrew Fraser from leave early in October next.

If this be the reason of the resignation, the Government of India and the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam evidently disagree as to the policy pursued in the new Province regarding school boys. Sir Bampfylde Fuller refuses to be dictated to by Lord Minto. He prefers to give up his great office than withdraw his own act by order of the Viceroy. He does not mind the remark of the Secretary of State for India in the matter of the Sylhet execution, of Uday Patni, that "I regret to say in my view these proceedings fall short of the high and exact standard of official duty which the Indian Civil Service for so many generations had so notably maintained."

Sir Bampfylde Fuller resigns because "he felt himself unable to carry into effect the wishes of the Government of India." He disobeys the order of the Governor-General of India in Council and, as a mark of his disapprobation of that order, gives up his own appointment. It is, probably, left to his successor to apply for withdrawal of the application to the Calcutta University. His standard of official duty is higher than the high standard referred to by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India. The resignation of disobedience has, it appears, been coolly accepted and Sir Bampfylde retires in all glory.

He may have acted on the principle laid down in 1898 by the then Secretary of State for India, Lord George Hamilton, in connection with the Thorburn incident. In that despatch from the India Office, we read :

I will add, further, that it is improper for any officer to convey to the public, whether in writing, or in a speech or otherwise, any opinion upon matters of Government policy which are, or are likely to become, the subject of public discussion. It is, of course, inevitable that cases must from time to time occur in which the decisions of Government do not commend themselves to the officers who may have to carry them out. On such occasion, the officers in question, after making proper representations to their official superiors, have only two courses open to them, namely, either to acquiesce loyally and silently in the decision of the responsible authorities; or to resign their positions in the Service.

The first Lieutenant-Governor of the newest Province, unable to acquiesce loyally and silently in the decision of the Government of India, resigns his position in the Service. While publishing the despatch, on November 19, 1898, we said :

In the despatch Lord George Hamilton seems to say what Lord Wellesley had remarked on an observation of Sir John Malcolm regarding Gwalior. Malcolm had written : "God knows, throughout the whole of this troubled scene my attention has been exclusively directed to one object—the promotion of the public interests." Lord Wellesley, uncaring the last two words, wrote the following note in the margin : "Mr. Malcolm's duty is to obey my orders, and to enforce my instructions. I will look after the public interests." It does not appear that this remark of the Governor-General was communicated to Malcolm, as it is made on a private letter addressed by Malcolm to Edmonstone.

Disaffection has been explained as want of action. What is disaffiliation? English dic-

tionaries have the word affiliation but not disaffiliation. Is disaffiliation absence or withdrawal of affiliation? We find that the New Oxford Dictionary has the word disaffiliate. It means the reverse of to affiliate—to undo the affiliation of, to detach (that which is affiliated). Sir Bampfylde Fuller has fallen out with the Government of India on account of disaffiliation which he had recommended but to which Lord Minto does not agree. On that difference Sir Bampfylde disaffiliates himself from the Government of India and the Service. Was he ever affiliated to Lord Minto, or is he now estranged and in rebellion? It is the revolt of Sarpedon against Zeus.

The much befriended man,

The man almost affiliate to the State,

breaks off. In fullness of activity, in the height of his fame, in the pacification of a new and disturbed Province, his course is interrupted. He is overcast, but shines out in resignation.

The orthodox Anglo-Indian press are loud in their cry at the obfuscation, as it may be imagined to be due to the attempt of the monster of the Indian political agitation to devour the great luminary of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Ex Orient Lux. This luminary, rising in the North-West, sets in the East. There is an attempt

From fringes of the faded eve,

To take him under starry light,

To move him to his Service-morn,

And round again to happy night.

On the resignation, the "Hindoo Patriot," (August 7.) remarks :

The avowed cause of Lord Curzon's resignation was that Mr. Brodrick, the late Secretary of State for India, would not accept his Lordship's nomination to the Military Secretaryship. The avowed cause of Sir Bampfylde's resignation is that the Government of India would not lodge him in a safe position in the Calcutta University. The late Viceroy quarrelled over an appointment, and lost; the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province created by him collided with the Calcutta University with a similar result. Mr. Brodrick's rebuke in the case of Lord Curzon, and Mr. Morley's censure in that of Sir Bampfylde, failed to bring about what trifles have effected. It is a repetition of the fable of a bull almost sinking beneath the weight of a gnat perched on one of its horns. Petty matters sometimes assume such tremendous proportions. The tyranny of trifles is indeed excessive, in India in particular in these days. The second period of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty lasted for a little over 10 months. Sir Bampfylde Fuller resigns after being Lieutenant-Governor for a little less than 10 months. The parallel may be continued, but where is the good? The end has come, it being at once a lesson and a warning to officials as a class. But let there be no needless and harmful gloating over it.

The *chela* is true to the *guru*. He imitates him to the end.

INDIA'S TRADE IN JUNE.

MODERN India now reads with avidity the trade return of British India. It has now come to realise that its future growth and improvement depend not on the favours granted by the powers that hold the sway of the country but on the solution of the economic problems that face the people. The figures for exports and imports are vital questions of the hour. The people are now devoting their attention to indigenous industries. We shall notice with interest the advance made in the manufacture of country goods in pursuance of the recent Swadeshi movement. All India stands expectant to receive cheering news as time goes on. The latest accounts relating to the

trade and navigation of British India, for the month of June, have just been published, and they bring to a close the first quarter of the official year. The increase of imports under merchandise was to the extent of rupees fifty one lakhs, twenty three thousand, eight hundred, and fifty-five, and a decrease under treasure of rupees two lakhs, ninety-four thousand, four hundred and twenty-nine, or a nett improvement of rupees forty-eight lakhs, twenty-nine thousand, four hundred and twenty-six compared with June of 1905. All figures connected with Government are omitted. The Government imported treasure to the value of one crore, sixty-seven lakhs, eighteen thousand, eight hundred and sixty-four as against twenty-two lakhs, eighteen thousand, six hundred and four last year, the excess being practically all silver, of which eighty-three lakhs, thirty-five thousand, seven hundred and sixty-five ounces were bought in compared with only eleven lakhs, eighty-six thousand, four hundred and two ounces in the preceding year. Exports again show an improvement, though small, in merchandise to the extent of rupees two lakhs, twenty-one thousand, three hundred and fifteen and rupees seventeen lakhs, nine thousand, six hundred and seventy-one in treasure, the latter excess being also in silver, which went from Bombay to Arabia and Persia. The first quarter of the current year shows an excess over 1905 of rupees two crores, thirteen lakhs, sixty-six thousand, and twenty-eight in imports, and rupees four crores, sixty lakhs, fifty-two thousand, four hundred and thirty-two in exports. The balance of trade in favour of India for the quarter is something over rupees eight crores, and for June alone two crores, thirty five lakhs, sixty-four thousand, nine hundred and twelve. British India is prospering in trade as the above figures point out.

Though under import the excess over 1905 is over two crores of rupees, the new-born spirit to use home-made goods in preference to foreign goods may claim not a very small share of success. Mineral oils, cane sugar and cotton piece-goods have each contributed to the decrease of the import of those articles. The shrinkage in mineral oils, to the extent of nearly seven and half lakhs, is a satisfactory item. Burma oil has driven away the foreign oil. America now stands as a formidable rival after Russia's discomfiture in the Indian market. Imports of cane sugar show a decline. Indigenous sugar factories are very small in number. So long we do not possess sugar-refining factories, it will be difficult to compete with imported refined sugar. The area for sugar-cane cultivation is to be increased and sugar from dates must come in to help us to fight the imported articles. The Swadeshi vow is directed chiefly against cotton piece-goods. And the people have waged war against this great item not without success, as there is a nett decline of nearly thirteen lakhs, all in white goods—all over there is a decline of nearly twenty-two lakhs.

Exports have increased in June more than in June of 1905. Under export raw materials claim over fifty and manufactured articles over forty-two lakhs of rupees. Of raw materials, seeds, jute, coal, hides and wool deserve attention. Of manufactured articles, Gunnies head the list. Cotton yarns valued at twelve lakhs more than in 1905 go mostly to

China. Germany is the largest buyer of our manures. Manganese ore is a thriving business. The deficiencies are found in cotton over thirteen lakhs and skins over four lakhs. Do not our cotton and boot and shoe industries go to explain the deficiency noticed in the report? Opium shows a steady decline. Though the quantity exported is greater being seven thousand one hundred and fifty hundred weight as against six thousand four hundred and forty-three hundred weight of last year, the price has fallen. Mr. Morley was asked not to force Indian opium on China. He said that everything depended on China, if she refused to buy opium, the question was solved. Latest reports show that China has awakened to her sense of responsibility and means to shake off her old lethargy and take a place among the modern great nations of the world. She means to give up opium gradually. We think the most-hopeful sign of the time is to be read in the passage where the import of machinery and mill works show a considerable expansion. We must have our own mills and factories.

There is an admirable contribution to the "Morning Leader" on "India's Trade Deficit" from the pen of Mr. Chiozza Money, M.P. It is ridiculous to compare India with England. England every year has considerable excess of imports over exports, while the reverse is the case in India. "England's commerce is very profitable to her because ships bring to her shores every year far more goods than they take away, leaving her with an ever increasing accumulation of wealth. Very different is the case of India. The outstanding fact about Indian commerce is an excess of imports." Then he explains the excess of exports. It is useless to say that the arguments are well-known to the Indians and the Government here, but it is well that these facts should be made known to the people in England. They were kept quite in the dark about what is going on in India. The Material Prosperity of the People blue-book is an account much in advance. Mr. C. Money says that "the excess practically represents the tribute which year by year India pays to the United Kingdom. In 1905-6 the 'Home charges,' as they are called, amounted to nearly nineteen millions pound. To begin with, we make India pay the entire cost of her administration in London. The salary of Mr. John Morley is paid, not by the British taxpayer, as it ought to be, but by India. The entire cost of the India Office, down to the wages of the char-women, is paid by India. Is some young hopeful pitchforked in the Indian Civil Service, India pays the bill. We quarter an unnecessary number of our soldiers in India, and make India pay for them. Does one of them go mad, India sustains the lunatic for the rest of his life. All the pensions of the retired Indian civil servants invariably spent in England are paid by India. Then there is India's debt. This is almost entirely held here and the interest is to be exported by India. It is a sad thing for a country when its debt is held abroad. Our own indebtedness is bad enough but it is at least due to persons within our borders so that the interest has not to be shipped away to be spent in other lands. The poor Indian, on the other hand, has to work to send interest to the United Kingdom. It is precisely the same evil effect as absentee landlordism. But beyond

The Home Charges, as they are called, absorb practically one-third of the entire revenues. About \$100,000,000 goes out of India to England every year; more than \$15,000,000 is paid to European officials in the civil employ. What nation could stand such a drain without impoverishment?

Taxation is nearly twice as heavy in India as in England in proportion to the income of the people. Compared with the people of other countries, the Indian's income is on the average one-twentieth of the average English income, one-seventh of the average Spaniard's income, one-sixth of the average Italian's income one-fifth of the (European) Russian's income, and one-half the income of the Turk.

Sir Henry Cotton shows that the average per capital deposit in banks in England is \$100, while the average per capital deposit in India is 50 cents; but how can the Indian be expected to have a large bank account when the average yearly income is \$10?

THE SILVER QUESTION.

I have, in another article, referred to the jewellery worn by Indian women. The bracelets and anklets are silver, except among the poorest, and this was formerly a form of hoarding, but the suspension of the coinage of silver deprived the people of the privilege of converting this hoarded silver into rupees.

It will be remembered that the late Senator Wolcott, a member of the Monetary Commission appointed by President McKinley in 1897, on his return from Europe declared that the suspension of the coinage of silver in India had reduced the value of the savings of the people to the amount of \$500,000,000. The suspension was carried out for the benefit of European interests regardless of the welfare of the masses.

DEATH RATE RISING.

So great has been the drain, the injustice to the people, and the tax upon the resources of the country, that famines have increased in frequency and severity. Mr. Gokhale, one of the ablest of India's public men, presided over the meeting of the last Indian National Congress held in December, and declared in his opening speech that the death rate had steadily risen from 24 to the 1,000 in 1882-84 to 30 in 1892-94 and to 34 at the present time.

I have more than once, within the last month, heard the plague referred to as a providential remedy for over population. Think of it! British rule justified because "it keeps the people from killing each other," and the plague praised because it removes those whom the Government has saved from slaughter!

The railroads, with all their advantages, have been charged with adding to the weight of famine by carrying away the surplus grain in good years, leaving no residue for the years of drought. While grain can now be carried back more easily in times of scarcity, the people are too poor to buy it with two freights added. The storage of grain by the Government at central points until the new crop is sale would bring some relief, but it has not been attempted.

If it is argued that the railroads have raised the price of grain in the interior by furnishing a cheaper outlet to the sea, it must be remembered that the benefit has accrued, not to the people, but to the landlords, the Government being the largest holder.

MONEY FOR AN ARMY, NONE FOR IRRIGATION.

Not only are the people being impoverished, but the land is being worn out. Manure, which ought to be used to renew the fields, is consumed as fuel, and no sight is more common in India than that of women and children gathering manure from the roads with their hands. This, when mixed with straw and sun dried, is used in place of wood, and from the amount of it carried in baskets it must be a chief article of merchandise.

There are now large tracts of useless land that might be brought under cultivation if the irrigation system were extended. Proof of this is to be found in the fact that the Government of India has already approved of extensions which, when made, will protect 7,000,000 acres and irrigate 3,000,000 acres.

The estimated cost of these extensions is about \$45,000,000, and the plans are to be carried out "as funds can be provided." Ten per cent. of the army expenditure applied to irrigation would complete the system within five years, but instead of military expenses being reduced, the army appropriation was increased more than \$10,000,000 between 1904 and 1905.

Of the total amount raised from taxation each year about 40 per cent. is raised from land, and the rate is so heavy that the people cannot save enough when the crops are good to feed themselves when the crops are bad. More than 10 per cent. of the total tax is collected on salt, which now pays about five-eighths of a cent. a pound.

This is not only a heavy rate, when compared with the original cost of the salt, but it is especially burdensome to the poor. The salt tax has been as high as one cent a pound, and when

at that rate materially reduced the amount of salt consumed by the people.

The poverty of the people of India is distressing in the extreme; millions live on the verge of starvation all the time, and one would think that their very appearance would plead successfully in their behalf.

WHY NOT SELF-GOVERNMENT?

The economic wrong done to the people of India explains the political wrong done to them. For more than twenty years an Indian National Congress has been pleading for a modified form of representative government—not for a severing of the tie that binds India to Great Britain, but for an increased voice in their local affairs.

This request cannot be granted. Why? Because a local government, composed of Natives selected by the people, would protest against so large an army, reduce the taxes, and put Indians at lower salaries into places now held by Europeans.

It is the fear of what an Indian local government would do that prevents the experiment, although two other reasons, both insufficient, are given. One of these is that the Indian people are not intelligent enough and that they must be protected from themselves by denying them a voice in their own affairs. The other is that the Indians are so divided into tribes and religious sects that they cannot act harmoniously.

The first argument will not impress any unprejudiced traveller who has come into contact with the educated classes. There are enough informed, college trained men in India, not to speak of those who, like our own ancestors a few centuries ago, have practical sense and good judgment without book learning to guide public opinion.

BRITISH ARGUMENTS ANSWERED.

While the percentage of literacy is deplorably small, the total number of educated men is really considerable, and there are at this time 17,000 students above the secondary schools and studying for the B.A. degree. There is not a district of any considerable size that has not some intelligent men in it, and these could be relied upon to direct the government until a larger number are qualified to assist.

It is true that Native Princes have often seemed indifferent to the welfare of their subjects—princes who have lived in great luxury while the people have been neglected—but to-day some of the Native States vie with those controlled by European officials in education and material advancement. Is not the very fact that the people are left under the government of Native Princes in the Native States conclusive proof that in all States the government could be administered without the aid of so large a number of Europeans?

The second argument is equally unsound. To say that the Indians would necessarily fight among themselves is to ignore the progress of the world.

There was a time when Europe was the scene of bloody religious wars, and our country is indebted to the persecution of the Pilgrims in England for some of its best pioneers. There has been a growth in religious tolerance during the last century, and this is as noticeable in India as elsewhere.

Already the intellectual leaders of all the sects and elements of the Indian population are mingling in congresses, conferences, and public meetings. Already a national spirit is growing which, like the national spirit in England and America, disregards religious lines and emphasizes more and more the broad social needs which are common to all; and with the increase of general education there will be still more unity and national sentiment.

Those who make this argument also forget that as long as England maintains sovereignty it will be impossible for religious differences to lead to war, and that differences in council and in congress would strengthen rather than weaken her position.

NATIVES EXCLUDED FROM OFFICE.

Why is there lack of intelligence among the Indians? Have they not had the blessings of British rule for several generations? Why have they not been fitted for self-government?

Gladstone, whose greatness of head and heart shed a lustre upon all Europe, said: "It is liberty alone which fits men for liberty. This proposition, like every other in politics, has its bounds, but it is far safer than the counter doctrine, wait till they are fit."

How long will it take to fit the Indians for self-government when they are denied the benefits of experience? They are excluded from the higher Civil Service (ostensibly open to them) by cunningly devised systems of examinations, which make it impossible for them to enter.

Not only are the people thus robbed of opportunities which rightfully belong to them, but the country is deprived of the accumulated wisdom that would come with service for the alien

officials return to Europe at the end of their service, carrying back their wisdom and earnings, not to speak of the pensions which they then begin to draw.

AT A STANDSTILL UNDER BRITISH RULE.

The illiteracy of the Indian people is a disgrace to the proud nation which, for a century and a half, has controlled their destiny. The Editor of the "Indian World," a Calcutta magazine, says in last February's number:

"If India has not yet been fit for free institutions, it is certainly not her fault. If, after one and a half centuries of British rule, India remains where she was in the Middle Ages, what a sad commentary must it be upon the civilising influences of that rule!

"When the English came to India, this country was the leader of Asiatic civilisation and the undisputed centre of light in the Asiatic world. Japan was nowhere.

"Now, in fifty years, Japan has revolutionised her history with the aid of modern arts of progress, and India, with 150 years of English rule, is still condemned to tutelage."

Who will answer the argument presented by this Indian editor? And he might have made it stronger.

Japan, the arbiter of her own destiny and the guardian of her own people, has in half a century bounded from illiteracy to a position where 90 per cent. of her people can read and write, and is now thought worthy to enter into an Anglo-Japanese alliance; while India, condemned to political servitude and sacrificed for the commercial advantage of another nation, still sits in darkness, less than 1 per cent. of her women able to read and write, and less than 10 per cent. of her total population sufficiently advanced to communicate with each other by letter or to gather knowledge from the printed page.

ILLITERACY DESPITE HIGH TAXES.

In the speech above referred to, Mr. Gokhale estimates that four villages out of every five are without a schoolhouse, and this, too, in the country where the people stagger under an enormous burden of taxation. The published statement for 1904-5 shows that the general Government appropriated but \$6,500,000 for education, while more than \$90,000,000 were appropriated for "army services," and the revised estimate for the next year shows an increase of a little more than \$500,000 for education, while the army received an increase of more than \$12,000,000.

The Government has, it is true, built a number of colleges (with money raised by taxation), and it is gradually extending the system of primary and secondary schools (also with taxes), but the progress is exceedingly slow and the number of schools grossly inadequate. Benevolent Englishmen have also aided the cause of education by establishing private schools and colleges under Church and other control, but the amount returned to India in this way is insignificant when compared with the amount drawn by England from India.

It is not scarcity of money that delays the spread of education in India, but the deliberate misappropriation of taxes collected, and the system which permits this disregard of the welfare of the subjects, and the subordination of their industries to the supposed advancement of another nation's trade is as indefensible upon political and economic grounds as upon moral grounds.

NATIONAL SPIRIT AWAKENING.

If more attention were given to the intellectual progress of the people and more regard shown for their wishes, it would not require many soldiers to compel loyalty to England; neither would it require a large army to preserve peace and order.

If agriculture were protected and encouraged and Native industries built up and diversified, England's commerce with India would be greater, for prosperous people would buy more than can be sold to India to-day, when so many of her sons and daughters are like walking shadows.

Lord Curzon, the most brilliant of India's Viceroys of recent years, inaugurated a policy of reaction. He not only divided Bengal, with a view to lessening the political influence of the great province, but he adopted an educational system which the Indians believe was intended to discourage higher education among the Native population.

The result, however, was exactly the opposite of that which was intended. It aroused the Indians and made them conscious of the possession of powers which they had not before employed. As the cold autumn wind scatters winged seeds far and wide, so Lord Curzon's administration spread the seeds of a national sentiment, and there is more life in India to-day, and therefore more hope, than there has ever been before. So high has feeling run against the Government that there has been an attempted boycott of English made goods, and there is now a well-organised movement to encourage the use of goods made in India.

INDIA AND COLONIALISM.

Let no one cite India as an argument in defence of colonialism. On the Ganges and the Indus the Briton, in spite of his many noble qualities and his large contributions to the world's advancement, has demonstrated, as many have before, man's inability to exercise with wisdom and justice, irresponsible power over helpless people. He has conferred some benefits upon India, but he has extorted a tremendous price for them.

While he has boasted of bringing peace to the living he has led millions to the peace of the grave; while he has dwelt upon order established between warring troops he has impoverished the country by legalised pillage. Pillage is a strong word, but no refinement of language can purge the present system of its iniquity.

How long will it be before the quickened conscience of England's Christian people will heed the petition that swells up from fettered India and apply to Britain's greatest Colony the doctrines of human brotherhood that have given to the Anglo-Saxon race the prestige that it enjoys?—India, July 20.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, August 11, 1906.

THE ECLIPSE—

LUNAR AND FULLER.

ON Saturday, the 4th day of August, 1906, there was total eclipse of the silent moon, as also of the loquacious Sir Bampfylde Fuller, the great luminary of the new Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The privation of light of the full moon is occasioned by the interposition of the earth. Lunar eclipses happen only when the moon is full. For, it is only then that the earth is between the sun and the moon. Nor at every full-moon. They happen when the moon's latitude, or distance between the centres of the earth and moon is less than the sum of the apparent semidiameters of the moon and the earth's shadow. And this happens mostly at the moon's nodes.

W. Brennand, in his Hindu Astronomy published in 1896, says:

The Hindus were at a very early date well acquainted with these facts relating to eclipses. They had rules for calculation of the various phases both of Lunar and Solar eclipses, the times of beginning, middle, and end, as set forth in their various astronomical works, but they depended chiefly on those of Surya Siddhanta.

Among the superstitious of all ancient nations we find that eclipse of the sun and moon had a terrible import being supposed to presage dreadful events.

By the common people of the Romans, as also by the Hindus, a great noise was usually set up with brazen instruments, and loud shouts during eclipses of the moon. The Chinese, like the Hindus, supposed eclipses to be occasioned by great dragons on the point of devouring the sun and moon, and it was thought by the ignorant that the monsters, terrified by the noise of the drums and brass vessels, let go their prey.

The cause, however, of eclipses, notwithstanding the superstition of the people generally, was well understood by the Hindu astronomers...

The Fuller eclipse is the act of Sir Bampfylde Fuller himself. A member of the Civil Service, he is a celestial or heavenly body. He is either a planet himself or a satellite to a planet like the moon. He obscures himself by withdrawing his own light. Or, that eclipse is the deprivation of his light by the interposition of the Viceroy between him and the people under his rule.

It is reported:

Sir Bampfylde Fuller has resigned his office of Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam. His reason for this step is that he felt himself unable to carry into effect the wishes of the Government of India that he should withdraw his application to the Syndicate of the Calcutta University to disaffiliate

THE Hon'ble Mr. H. A. Seim, C. I. E., has resigned his office as an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council. Mr. T. Gordon Walker, C. S. I., Officiating Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, has been taken in as such a Member.

THE Vice-Consul for the Argentine Republic, as such, whether permanently or temporarily in office, has been granted the privilege of private entree to Government House at Calcutta.

THE BRITISH PEOPLE AND THE DARK RACES.

The great error of the British people in their dealings with the dark races under their control is that they expect gratitude from them, and when it is refused, as, for reasons stated below, it always will be, are apt to grow unreasonably angry. That the work done for them is great and beneficial, especially in Egypt, where the sceptre fell to a hand that fitted it, is past all question, and furnishes the sufficient justification for depriving so large a section of humanity of their otherwise complete claim to independence and self-government. Although it is true that we have in most of the dark regions commenced our work with the intention of securing gain, we have almost everywhere shown an intention and a power of rising to a higher level of motive. Though not quite the first white race to abolish slavery, we were the first to make a great sacrifice in order to be rid of that "combination of all crimes." In most of our dark dependencies we have established personal liberty, and in India which is incomparably our greatest possession, we have solved the problem of reconciling such liberty with absolute government by entrusting administration to a picked caste which has nothing to gain either from oppression or from the employment of masses of labour. If all India were a goldfield, no civilian would be the richer. We maintain everywhere the Pax Britannica, which secures to every man the full enjoyment of life and property, neither of which when we assumed the sceptre was safe for a single day. We distribute justice, which if in civil affairs slow and cumbersome, is in criminal affairs rapid and efficient, and are heartily pleased if under our rule any class becomes wealthy and comparatively enlightened. We desire and promote the education of all, and though in pursuit of that great end we have made many blunders, some of them very serious, we have never shrunk from the task from any consideration of the effect of enlightenment on the submissiveness of our subjects. We are establishing everywhere a respect for law as distinguished from personal will, sometimes with the rather absurd effect of

making great populations incurably litigious. We have learned how to abstain from interfering with inferior creeds, and yet to ameliorate their operation whenever they are opposed to the inherent conscience. While in communities which otherwise would be exposed to sanguinary anarchy we perform such eminent service we cannot, we think, be held to be wicked for putting down rebellion. All we are morally bound to do is to be as lenient as possible in the circumstances, to abstain from "cruel and unusual punishments," to prevent rebellion by such a visible exhibition of force and preparedness as shall make insurrection seem hopeless to sensible men and to administer so firmly and consistently that resistance to the law suggests itself as little as resistance to the operations of Nature. Nobody rages at rain even if it destroys his crop.

Nevertheless, though we hold it perfectly just to maintain the right of ruling when it has once fallen into our hands, we hold it most unjust to hate our dark subjects because of their occasional explosions of discontent. They purchase our services, the greatness of which we fully admit, at a very heavy price. In the first place, they lose independence, which all of them value, and many of them, if Mohammedans, think belongs to them by a direct revelation of God. It is idle to talk about "fanaticism." There can be no doubt that Mohammed meant his converts to rule those who rejected his mission, and in asserting by force that they will rule all outside their own creed they are but obeying one of the first precepts of their religion. As a matter of fact, Christians have precisely the same idea, though it is not formulated in the same way; and as a consequence no organised Christian people anywhere in the world consents peaceably to be governed by non-Christian rulers. In the second place, the dark peoples lose the disposal of the national fortune, and the upper class, who would share in that fortune if the white men were away, cannot be expected to approve a management which bars them from its control and enjoyment. Again, we are compelled to put an end to the exercise of power in the forms which all dark races appreciate, and in most cases to terminate careers except money making and the practice of the law, more especially those careers which lead to thrones, or to those military exploits which to the dark as to the white imagination seem so noble and attractive. As has been said frequently before, we triple the security, but destroy the interestingness, of the dark man's life. Often hereasons, being usually a man with an imagination, that he has lost more than he has gained, and rises in insurrection--if he sees a chance--in order to re-establish his own scheme of endurable life. We are compelled to put him down, or give up the task which seems to have been imposed upon us by a Will higher than our own; but this is no justification for the hatred which, in words at all events, we are occasionally too ready to express. We quite admit that the dark man, through an incurable vice in his nature which sometimes makes government easier, when in insurrection often gives intolerable provocation. He is inherently so afraid of the superior ability of the ruling cast that he thinks his only chance of independence is to kill it out, and includes women and children in his sentence of proscription. So did the "Barbarians," the ancestors of the great European races who swept over the Roman Empire, often leaving behind them solitude, and always making slaves, which the modern dark races of humanity do not attempt to do. We entirely admit also that the suffering of the whites when such an explosion occurs is greater than that of the Romans, owing to the difference of colour. The notion of submission to inferiors increases the poignancy of defeat. This, however, though it is full reason for remaining armed, and for fighting, when the emergency occurs, to the death--even in India, where we were so fearfully out-numbered, there never was in the Mutiny even a whisper of compromise, the white men all deciding to continue ruling or go under--is no justification for imitating the dark men in their cruelties, or forgetting that sovereignty cannot be based on punishment alone. As for the refusal of quarters--which we see some of the Volunteers in the heat of the contest in Natal have recommended, showing to their leaders, "Let there be no surrenders!"--that is as impolitic as it is un-Christian. The white object in suppressing a rising should be victory, not massacre, the mere threat of which can but harden the courage of men who, like the Bantus everywhere in Africa, are among the bravest of mankind.

The practical results of the principles we are advocating are that we must do our work in justice and mercy, without expecting

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyanatha.

Treasurer.

Babu Anulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyay

and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their *Viksha* on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT WARNING—When asking for WILKINSON'S SARSAPARILLA see that no deceiving and disappointing imitation is offered. All respectable Chemists and dealers in Medicine supply WILKINSON'S Sarsaparilla which has a worldwide reputation of over 70 years "as a superior preparation always reliable." Notice the name and trade mark on all packets to imitate which is a felony.

the reward in "love," which we most assuredly shall not receive; that we should keep ourselves armed in such a way and in such strength that we should never be liable to a fit of that cruelty which is born of panic; and that we should regard our sovereignty over dark races not as an occasion of pride, still less as a source of gain, but as a grave and burdensome work which it is our duty to perform with as little injury to our own permanent character as we can contrive. We have a right to quell insurrection, but we have no moral right whatever to make of insurrection an excuse for turning ourselves into 'virtual slave-holders. Justice is not a geographical virtue, and we are bound to be as just in Delhi or Johannesburg as we are in London or in Ottawa. If in addition to this great principle we can bring ourselves always to display the lesser virtues of patience and politeness, we shall find that one half of our difficulties have silently glided out of the road. Those dark peoples who acknowledge the excellence of our dominion still hate our manners as they would be hated if we displayed them to inferiors at home. The peculiar insolence of the ruling castes which caused most of the horrors of the French Revolution, and will, we fear, make any popular uprising in Russia a widely spread massacre of the landowners, has fortunately died slowly out of British homeways, and it should be kept down in dealing with the dark races not by laws or rules, but by an everpresent atmosphere of consideration pressing invisibly but with irresistible weight. We are not asking too much, surely, when we ask from the Englishman among a subject people the bearing of a British officer towards British soldiers...."The Spectator."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, July 12.

EXECUTION OF A REPRIEVED PRISONER IN EASTERN BENGAL.

Mr. Albert Bright asked the Secretary of State for India whether he had received a report from India of the circumstances connected with the execution of a Native who had appealed to the Governor-General; and what action he intended to take with respect to the official who is responsible for this execution.

READY FOR SALE

THE PROBLEM OF EXISTENCE

ITS MYSTERY, STRUGGLE, AND COMFORT
IN THE LIGHT OF ARYAN WISDOM

BY

MANMATH C. MALLIK

OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER AT-LAW

LONDON

T. FISHER UNWIN

Price Rs. 6-8.

Life makes itself manifest in two main features,—action and abstraction. Life in continuous action is only observable in the material forces of nature which are incessantly at work without stoppage or rest. Life in abstraction is perceivable in thought alone when the mind withdraws itself wholly from its material associate. There are subordinate divisions, as innumerable as the material figures in which life enters for a time, in which the two characteristics are combined in different degrees. To study and to know what life is, is to solve its mystery, to receive imperishable light, and to secure everlasting and unalloyed happiness.

This book indicates the method by which the mystery of life may be solved, its delusion dispelled, and individual national, racial, human advancement towards perfection, if ever attainable on this planet, can be achieved.

Mr. Morley : When this subject was first raised by a question in the name of the hon. member for Tyneside I expressed my incredulity, and in some particulars incredulity was justified. Uday Patny was sentenced to death by the Sessions Judge of Sylhet for murder. The right of appeal is of exceptional liberality in India. First, the capital sentence was confirmed by the High Court of Calcutta. Next, the prisoner had right of appeal to the High Court; whether he exercised this right I do not know. The date of the execution was fixed by the Sessions Judge for May 21. The prisoner now appealed for mercy to the Lieutenant-Governor, who, in the exercise of the powers vested in him, declined, on May 12, to interfere. The prisoner then made an oral statement to the superintendent of the gaol, appealing to the Government of India. The superintendent informed the local government of the fact by telegram on Sunday, the 13th. On the 15th, the record of the case and the notification of the appeal were despatched to the Government of India by registered letter marked "immediate." Owing to some error this letter, which should have been delivered on the 19th, did not come into the hands of the Government of India until ten o'clock on the morning of Monday, the 21st. The Government of India telegraphed staying the execution if it had not been already carried out, not because they thought that the case deserved clemency—for the record satisfied them of the guilt of the accused—but because they were under the impression that a petition for mercy was on its way to them, and they did not realise that the telegram from the gaoler was all that the prisoner had to say. The convict had already been executed at seven o'clock that morning. The local government admit, in a communication to the Government of India, that mistakes were made. They overlooked the fact that May 20 was a Sunday, and therefore there might be delay. The superintendent of the Sylhet Gaol told them that he had fixed the 21st for the execution, but they gave him no orders to postpone. Let me say that if a prisoner, after petitioning the local government, further petitions the Government of India, and if such petition in the opinion of the local government contains nothing likely to influence the judgment of the Government of India in the prisoner's favour, the local government is bound, under the regulations of 1885, to forward it to the Government of India, but is not bound to postpone the execution beyond the date already fixed. In the present case the verbal petition to the Government of India added nothing to the petition to the local government which had already been rejected, and the Lieutenant-Governor's action was, therefore, strictly in accordance with the regulation to which I have just referred. Whatever may be the right construction of the rule, it was to be expected, in my opinion, that the local government, having forwarded the petition, would make it part of the same operation to take care that the object in forwarding it should not be made futile by taking no steps to suspend the execution. I must remind the House that the Government of India had no doubt, upon a review of the record, that the conviction and the sentence passed by the Sessions Judge and confirmed by the High Court of Calcutta were entirely just. There have been admitted faults in procedure, and I regret to say that, in my view, these proceedings fall short of the high and exact standard of official duty that the Indian Civil Service has for so many generations so notably maintained. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Byles : Does all this not point to the abandonment of the judicial policy of taking away human life? (Cries of "Order")

No answer was given.—India, July 20.

NOTICE TO THOSE INTERESTED IN

No. 11, Pollock Street.

The public are hereby informed that by an agreement dated 18th May 1906 Osman Hadjee Jonas has agreed to sell the entirety of the above premises free from all incumbrances to our clients Messrs. Jan Mahomed and Abdulla, the said Osman Hadjee Jonas being entitled only to an undivided share therein has undertaken to procure the conveyance by the persons entitled to the remaining undivided shares.

Those persons who have or claim any right title or interest; whatsoever into or upon the premises or any part thereof should kindly within a fortnight from date hereof inform the undersigned thereof giving full particulars otherwise our clients will not be in any wise bound by or responsible therefor.

MANUEL & AGARWALLA.

Dated 6th August 1906.
No. 3, Hastings Street,
Calcutta.

lies the question of the fuller development of Indian resources and Indian industry. It is really remarkable in view of the great skill of the Indian population how small have been the industrial developments of the last generation. The growth of long-stapled cotton should be encouraged, and no blindly selfish consideration allowed to stand in the way of industrial activity. I say blindly selfish because our true material interest lies in Indian prosperity. The more India produces the more India can buy and sell." The above long quotation is a sufficient protest against the official optimism of Indian Trade.



THE SAVING GRACE OF HUMOUR.

You may know to hoe or sow—
Hope for seed to spread and grow—
Laugh, and learn in weal and woe
Laughter makes the honey flow :
Ha, Ha, Ha ! and Ho, Ho, Ho !—ARGYLE.

"The more one knows of life, the more does one feel satisfied," writes Sarah Grand, "that the great factor necessary for the promotion of harmony is tolerance, tolerance tempered by the sense of humour. Tolerance is the outcome of sympathetic insight. And as to humour, 'I dare not tell you,' wrote Tennyson to his future wife, 'how high I rate humour, which is generally most fruitful in the highest and most solemn human spirits. Dante is full of it; Shakespeare, Cervantes, and all the greatest have been pregnant with this glorious power. You will find it in the gospel of Christ.' Conservatism is the canker of Society. We allow that variety is wholesome, yet we are always apt to be intolerant of others in any matter in which they differ from ourselves. Our love of tolerance extends, for the most part, only to the tolerance which we expect to have accorded to ourselves—only as far, that is to say, as the *I* of egotism can reach." And Max, writing in "Capital," says—

If there is one quality which a Governor of men, equipped with the necessary character and ability for his post, ought to possess, and which with lightome grace ought to penetrate his whole personality, it is the saving salt of humour. A man destitute of this is nearly always a failure when he has to meet untoward circumstances out of the ordinary every-day hum-drum routine of administrative work. Two illustrations will suffice to show my meaning. Quite recently at two large jute mills on the banks of the Hooghly, there was excitement amongst the workers and shouts of *Bande Mataram* rent the air. The one

manager treated the demonstration as one deserving of severe repressive measures, and the consequence was that he and his workers got to loggerheads, bitter feeling was evolved and the hands struck work; the end being police court cases. A little tact and humour on the part of the manager, otherwise a very capable man, would have saved the whole situation.

At the other mill the manager, an able and successful man of long experience in the governing of workers, was met one morning by a crowd of his people shouting and singing *Bande Mataram*. He simply entered into their spirit, gave them some good humoured chaff, interspersed with jocular remarks which were highly appreciated (the workers always relish a good joke, even if it is against themselves), sang *Bande Mataram* with them, and then sent them off a happy and contented lot to their respective places inside the mill. He possessed tact and the saving salt of humour, and so became master of the situation without any difficulty. Lord Minto possesses this indispensable gift; it has often stood Sir Andrew Fraser in good stead, and the Hon. Mr. Hare who now succeeds to the post of Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam, is known to possess it, and "by my faith" he will soon have to exercise it. Mr. Hare enters upon his new responsibility with the hearty good wishes of everybody for his future success.

I may close this patchwork contribution for the present with a cutting from the "Morning Post," which is sufficiently a propos of the occasion and the hour—

The Bengali Babu is jubilant. Bengal is still a divided province, but something has been accomplished—Sir Bamfylde Fuller has resigned. The Bengali press generally pooh-poohs the reason given for the resignation—in fact, they invest it with a Fuller meaning. It remains to be seen whether the new L. G. will be able to allay the unrest in the new province, but if the Babus intend to pursue a policy of "rotting," they should remember the old adage—"first catch your Hare." In the meantime, the other half of Bengal is presumably, to have a Slacke "regime."

More in my next.

ARUNADAYA DHUAPATRA.

THE *Englishman*, (August 2) writes :

"Not the least deplorable consequence of the present tension in the two Bengals is the feeling that seems to have grown up amongst a section of Europeans, both official and non-official, that the Bengalis as a race are so full of a bitter anti-English feeling that it is unwise to place them in positions of trust. The word Bengali, of course, is used in the sense of only including that class which has come to be termed, 'Babu' that is to say those Hindu inhabitants of Bengal who, having an education in English, have not divorced themselves from the customs and prejudices of their forefathers."

So, according to this authority, the modern 'Babu' is a Hindu inhabitant of the two Bengals who, with some English education, keeps to the customs and prejudices of his forefathers. His little English education fills him with bitter anti-English feeling, and he is, therefore, to be kept out of position of trust. If his little knowledge of English be so dangerous, intoxicating his brain, why not make him drink deep instead of taste the well of English undefiled that he may be sober again?

In James M. Macphail's "Kenneth S. Macdonald," the explanation of the word 'Babu' is that it "is the term applied to educated English-speaking Bengalis. Originally it was a term used only in the case of persons of rank, but like the corresponding English terms, 'Mr.' or 'Esquire,' it has passed into very common use."

In the Glossary attached to "The Bengalee or Sketches of Society in the East" published in 1813, "Baboo" is "of the class of native gentry, merchants," &c.

In the Oxford Dictionary, we read :

"Originally, A Hindu title of respect, answering to our 'Mr.' or 'Esquire'; hence, A native Hindoo gentleman; also (in Anglo-Indian use), a native clerk or official who writes English; sometimes applied disparagingly to a Hindoo or, more particularly, a Bengali with superficial English education."

The 'Babu' is undergoing many changes. It is not easy to know where it will rest.

A *bataki* or *davanli*, writes a correspondent, was being circulated in the Simla bazar that all the coolies, mehtars, hawkers, and other menial servants were to wash their clothes carefully as there was fear of an outbreak of infectious diseases. This is certainly a right step in the right direction, because on account of cold in sanitary stations the poorest people generally buy second-hand clothes in auctions and wear them for months without washing. It is a disgusting sight to behold milkmen and sweetmeat-sellers in filthy rags defying description. Perhaps they are too poor to buy a spare set to wear, while the one they put on is being washed and dried, but it seems that Banias, who wear costly rings and necklaces are also in the habit of wearing very dirty clothes. Want of sanitary education among the masses is the cause. Leaflets giving full description of the danger of such a habit should be distributed broadcast. Teachers of schools should be directed to give lectures to the boys and the town crier properly coached to describe the horrors of infection and contagion. Another step which would encourage cleanliness is what the Calcutta Municipality has done in the shape of building public baths for the poor. Simla has none, cheap soap or solution of Fuller's earth may be kept in charge of a chowkidar who should allow a given quantity to each person for use on the spot, with strict injunctions not to permit its being carried home. The expenditure thus incurred would more than repay the outlay in the hospitals. Prevention is better than cure, and to prevent the spread of diseases is the primary duty of a Municipality. It is all very well to erect fine buildings for administrative offices or to provide elegant kennels for dogs and style them Veterinary Hospitals, but to take anxious care of the human race is still better. Will the Simla Municipality import a public laundry and set an example to the most fashionable capital of the Empire?

ON 6th instant, a deputation consisting of some of the prominent members of the Indian community waited upon the acting Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and asked him to move the Local Government in the matter of the East Indian Railway strike. The Lieutenant Governor said that the Government had no jurisdiction in the matter and referred the deputation to the Railway Board. It is said that the strikers are in telegraphic correspondence with the Board. From the morning papers it appears that some 117 strikers received notice of dismissal on the 7th instant from the General Traffic Manager, who had previously sent notices to some 121 men, in all 238 up to date. The dismissed have been divided into two classes—some are to forfeit their Provident Fund contributions and interest thereon, while in the case of others the question of the Provident Fund is under discussion.

Some of the strikers' union recently went to Assansole, to preach the value of united action to force the hands of the employers. They have been successful to form such an association there. It is said that the men there are assuming a threatening attitude. Like a slow fire the idea is sure to spread if not attended to betimes. The poor middle class that form the bulk of these railway men are showing signs of unity, and it is time either the Board or the Railway officials approach the question in a sympathetic spirit.

THE Annual Statement of Works of Public Utility constructed by private individuals in Eastern Bengal during the year 1905, as published in the Supplement to the Eastern Bengal and Assam Gazette of the 4th August, gives a total of Rs. 1,20,262-9-10. The largest individual donation is Rs. 8,000 by Raja Janaki Ballav Sen of Dimla, Rangpur, for establishment of the Rangpur Agricultural Demonstration Farm. Another Raja—Srinath Roy—contributes Rs. 2,483 for improvement of water-works at Sitakundu in Chittagong. Most of the works are tanks. One tank—at Edward Park, Bogra, is put down for Rs. 1,500. A footnote says that "The donor has promised to pay Rs. 1,000 for the work, but it is anticipated that it will cost about 2,000, which the donor is expected to pay. The work is in progress." The Government Resolution

says—"The sums expended are shown against the names of the donors. Sir Bampfylde Fuller avails himself of this opportunity to express his appreciation of the public spirit which their expenditure evinced."

The figures for works costing less than Rs. 1,000 each in a district and the total of a district we give below:

| Districts. | Less than 1,000. | Total. |
|----------------|------------------|------------|
| Jalpaiguri ... | 279-15-6 | 279-15-6 |
| Rangpur ... | 3,380-0-0 | 11,380-0-0 |
| Dinajpur ... | 7,275-0-0 | 9,435-10-4 |
| Malda ... | 2,095-0-0 | 5,295-0-0 |
| Rajshahi ... | 4,322-0-0 | 25,932-0-0 |
| Pabna ... | 2,784-0-0 | 5,249-0-0 |
| Bogra ... | 3,300-0-0 | 6,703-0-0 |
| Mymensingh ... | 21,550-0-0 | 23,660-0-0 |
| Faridpur ... | 13,255-0-0 | 19,205-0-0 |
| Bakarganj ... | 600-0-0 | 600-0-0 |
| Tippera ... | 8,840-0-0 | 9,840-0-0 |
| Chittagang ... | 200-0-0 | 2,683-0-0 |

According to Divisions, the sums are:

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Rajshahi ... | 64,274-9-10 |
| Dacca ... | 43,465-0-0 |
| Chittagong ... | 12,523-0-0 |

Rajshahi's contribution is more than half of that of the three divisions, or Rs. 8,286-9-10 more than that of Dacca and Chittagong, or Rs. 20,809-9-10 more than that of Dacca. Taking Dacca as 1, Rajshahi is about 1½.

AFFAIRS are moving "onward with a livelier tread," as quaint old Nathaniel Hawthorne would say, in the ancient kingdom of Persia.

A very old Proverb will soon be obsolete, for the laws of the (Medes and) Persians are changing, and will no longer hold good for types of immutability. His Imperial Majesty the Shah-in-Shah has himself in a recent speech announced to his loyal subjects that he will grant them constitutional Government. There is nothing new under the sun, even under that sun which is the Shah's own emblem. Soon there will be nothing old.

The Shah's announcement has given very great satisfaction to his subjects (save of course to the old fossils), and this joy is shared by the Persian subjects in this good City of Calcutta.

On Monday last, the acting Consul General for Persia, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shujat Ali, celebrated the Shah's birth-anniversary by an Evening Party at the Consulate-General, 10, Hungerford Street. The Persian community gathered in force. So did the Armenian subjects of the Shah in Calcutta. The Europeans, Hindus and Mahomedans also were represented.

The Hon'ble Mr. Slack, the next acting Lieutenant-Governor, was present, and charmed all by his amiability and graciousness. Colonel Phillot was also there, as was to be expected of the Secretary to the Board of Examiners. Nawab Bahadur Syed Ameer Hossein and Khan Bahadur Syed Mohamed were there. Among the Armenians, were the two Armenian Priests stationed in Calcutta, and Messrs. A. T. Apcar, Arrathoon, Stephen and Malcolm. Among the Princes of the Oudh and Mysore Family were Mirza Ibrahim Ali, Delawar Jah, Gholam Mahomed, and others. The Hindus were represented by Maharaj Kumar Sailendra Krishna Deb, Rai Sitanath Rey Bahadur, &c. The Persians were headed by Aqa Moidul Islam Syed Jialuddin, Editor of the Persian Newspaper, Habbul Mateen, published in Calcutta, Aqa Sheik Abu Nasir, Aqa Mohamed Baker Gohstan, Nawab Syed Nasir Hossain, Aqa Syed Hossain Shoostari, &c.

The Acting Consul General, arrayed in full political uniform, stood on a dais. He received, and responded to, the congratulations of the Persian and Armenian communities, and later attended to each one of his guests. A String Band was in attendance. Messrs. Isaia & Co. provided the European refreshments. There were Indian refreshments also.

The gathering dispersed by 8 o'clock.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1906. WHOLE NO. 1,239.

NOTICE.

ON account of the Durga Puja holidays, there will be, as usual, no issue of *Reis and Rayyet* on the 29th September and 6th October. The next number will be dated the 13th October.

THE PRAYER OF SIDDARTHA.

(Suggested by "The Light of Asia.")

Give me all sorrow,
All weight of dark despair,
Give me the burdens
Of sin, the poison'd air :—
All that oppresses,
That makes of earth a hell—
Be it my portion,
For I can bear it well.

Bid peace o'ershadow
Their minds who toil in vain,
Grant them sweet slumber
While I endure their pain ;
Calm the impassion'd,
The wild, remorseful breast,
Give me its terror—
A Past that will not rest.

Lift from the wand'ring
The curse that kills the heart,
Take from the loving
The agony to part ;
Snatch from the struggling
The bitterness of strife,
Call home the weary,
Give me the longer life.

Cast here the darkness
Of guilt, the sting of shame !
And let some soul rise
The whiter for my blame.
Give them their heaven,
Though mine I never greet.
Lost to Nirvana—
I shall have touch'd Thy Feet.

A. R. WILLIAMS.

A LETTER TO THE RATS.

Having heard that rats will leave a house if a letter is written warning them to go, I wrote the above rhyming epistle to please certain children, depositing it upon the cellar stairs, and strangely enough the rats did leave the house—L. M. Fogg.

I sit down, a letter your ratships to write,
Which I trust you will read, and seek refuge in flight,
For, my patience exhausted by noise and by racker,
I warn : that a bullet shall pierce each gray jacket.
If you and your tribe do not leave on the morrow,
Poison rank I will scatter, and great cats will borrow.

In earnest I am ! now, take heed to my warning !
Get in order by midnight, and leave ere the morning.
Farewell, and good riddance ! they say, by the wharf
You will find food in plenty. Now scamper ! be off !
In my pantry or cellar ne'er dare to appear ;
For I am your enemy, true and sincere.

EARTHQUAKES.

Sir Archibald Geikie in his Text-Book of Geology, Vol. I. (4th edition, 1903), says : " There appears now to be no reason to doubt that the great majority of earthquakes originate under the sea. The submarine tracts more specially liable to them lie along the bases of the steep declivities of the continental areas. Such a line of disturbance, for example, lies out at sea along the eastern coast of Japan, where the sea-bottom plunges down into the great abyss of the Tosa-carora Deep, the bottom of which lies more than 24,000 ft. below the sea-level ; and it is from that line that most of the earthquakes, which are so numerous and often so disastrous, arrive in Japan. Thus the seat of the destructive earthquake of 15th June 1896 was situated under the foot of the western slope of that vast depression at a depth of 4000 fathoms, and not at a point but along a line of considerable length. Another similar line of weakness lies along the steep submerged western front of South America between Valparaiso and Iquique, where the bottom likewise sinks into a deep trough. On land the most frequent earthquakes take the place along mountain chains, especially those of which the latest upheavals date from late geological time. As many of these mountain chains, particularly when near a coast-line, are dotted with volcanoes, it was formerly believed that earthquakes were especially prominent in volcanic districts. But although they do occur in such areas, they are much more abundant in other non-volcanic regions. The several European earthquakes, for instance, have taken place not around Etna or Vesuvius, but along the Apennines, the Alps and other districts far removed from any active volcano."

" The borders of the Pacific Ocean are likewise subject to frequent earthquake shocks. Some of the most terrible earthquakes within human experience have been those which have affected the western sea-board of South America."

Prof. Edmond Suess, of the Vienna University in his " The Face of the Earth" (Oxford, 1904) gives an exhaustive account of earthquakes. South America has been the theatre of this violent agent of Nature in the years 1822, 1835 and 1837. " The earthquake of November 19, 1822, seems to have had its origin to the north-east of

Valparaiso. The most authoritative account of the asserted simultaneous elevation of the land is a letter from Mrs. Maria Graham, which was published by the Geological Society of London. According to this letter the whole coast appeared on the following morning to have been raised above its former level for a distance of more than one hundred miles. In Valparaiso the elevation amounted to three feet or so, in Quintero, to about four feet. At high tide part of the bed of the sea was sure to be dry, with oysters and other shell-fish clinging to the rocks in which they had grown, now however dead and diffusing evil odours."

Mr. C. E. Dutton in his "Earthquakes" (London, John Murray, 1904, p. 52) writes:—"The most remarkable and perhaps the most fully described, events of this origin (i. e., dislocation of strata) are those which have occurred in Chili. Among other observers they have received the study of Boussingault, Humboldt, and Charles Darwin, and their descriptions are among the classics of dynamical geology."

THE EARTHQUAKE IN CHILI.

A TALE OF HORROR.

London, Aug. 24.

A terrible earthquake in South America has added one more to the list of catastrophes which will make 1906 remarkable. Owing to the interruption of communications, accounts so far, as in the case of San Francisco, are somewhat meagre and conflicting. Although the first and apparently severest shocks occurred at Valparaiso during the night of Thursday last week, it was late on Friday evening before the first news reached London and little was known beyond the barest outline till Monday. We are still without accurate figures of the numbers killed and injured and the damage to property, but it seems certain that at least 3,000 lives were lost at Valparaiso, while the loss of property is variously estimated at 20 to 50 millions sterling. Doubtless reuter has already given you the main facts, so I need only fill in some details which he probably left untouched. A telegram to the "New York Herald," dated Valparaiso, Friday, says:—"At eight o'clock the whole city seemed suddenly to swing backwards and forwards. Then suddenly there was a jolt of such mighty force that whole rows of buildings toppled to the ground in a few seconds. Fires presently broke out in the busy section, and before midnight fires in Bella Vista section showed that part of the city was also doomed. The city stands upon a formation of granite and gneiss which seemed to accentuate the force of the shocks. Many land slides occurred around the city. No trains have arrived or left the city since the first shock. All the railway tunnels are filled up and miles of track twisted and rendered useless. There were two distinct and terrific shocks, the second following almost instantly on the first and completing the work of destruction. The day had been unusually calm and pleasant." Subsequent telegrams described the north-eastern half of the city, including the business quarter and the broad straight "avenue of delight," with its luxurious houses and gardens, as a mass of smoking ruins with flames still flickering. Soldiers stood on guard among the ruins to keep off thieves and some men caught plundering were immediately shot. The inhabitants were searching the ruins for lost friends and property. Some sixty thousand men and women, whose homes were ruined, were huddled in the squares, the mountain sides, on the seashore, and on board the ships in the bay. Many of them were injured in the disaster.

A telegram dated Santiago, Sunday, says:—"Senor Edwards, one of the proprietors of the 'Mercurio,' has just arrived here on horseback from Valparaiso. He states that the city is a heap of ruins. Scarcely a house is fit for habitation, though the hotels are standing and the majority of the guests are uninjured." Senor Grez, a gentleman who left Valparaiso on the morning after the earthquake occurred, states that after the earthquake a terrible darkness came over the city, but it was broken a few minutes later by the light of fires. This reassured the people who thought the end of the world had come when they found everything pitch dark. Faint shocks of earthquake still continue here. A medium shock was felt last night. About 50 persons have been killed and hundreds injured. There have been no English casualties.

The warehouses belonging to the Customs House at Valparaiso have been almost entirely destroyed. Owing to bursting of the water mains the city is flooded, and there is now a lack of water for human consumption. Food is scarce and the want of it is

beginning to be felt. The Government has ordered the war vessels lying at Talcahuano to bring stores and necessities to the stricken city. One hundred and forty prisoners were buried by the collapse of Santiago goal.

Somewhat optimistic official telegrams, published on Tuesday, put the casualties at Valparaiso at 300 killed and 800 injured, but it seems quite certain that these figures are greatly below the truth. There was, however, general agreement that the people at San Francisco were generally showing remarkable courage and self-possession and indeed even high spirits.

Wednesday's telegrams announced two further shocks that day, adding that the condition of the poorer classes was appalling and the atmosphere saturated with exhalations from the unburied corpses lying among the smoking embers. They further state that Thursday's shock was followed almost immediately by a violent storm of wind which prostrated the weakened walls and broke the electric tramway wires which flashed incessantly. Five minutes later a fire broke out everywhere. The firemen made desperate efforts, but they were unavailing owing to the want of water.

Telegraphic communication with Valparaiso has now been reopened, so that somewhat fuller details are coming and reports from the out-lying districts are arriving. A Valparaiso telegram published last night, says that the tragic scenes of the San Francisco earthquake are being reproduced. All looters carrying on their nefarious work are shot at once. The chronicle's New York correspondent says that so far over 100 looters have been shot. Martial law is still in force and notices have been posted all over the city warning the populace that people caught looting will be shot at sight. No actual lack of food is yet reported, although considerable difficulty is experienced in feeding the thousands who require provisions.

The news from Santiago (says the "Daily Chronicle") is less serious. The anxiety there is subsiding and business is being resumed, although private advices received at New York state that the business situation is critical and that until a meeting is held between the banking and business men it is impossible to tell whether or not a panic will be averted. The immediate losses occasioned by the earthquake (are serious enough in themselves, but the set back to business coupled with the total destruction of the railway and communications is even more serious and business men fear that it will be a very long time before normal operations are restored. Fugitives are still pouring into Santiago, and villages not heretofore mentioned are reported to have been overthrown by the shock. All those arriving have come on foot, or on mule, or brought with them. Many other Chilean towns brought with them. Many other Chilean towns and villages have been more or less damaged.

The shock was felt fully a thousand miles north of Valparaiso.---The Englishman, September 8.

THE COST OF EARTHQUAKES.

Professor Milne writes in the "Daily Mail":--

In Britain earthquakes occur but rarely, and the damage they occasion is usually too trifling to demand serious attention. Directly we turn to earthquake shaken Colonies and foreign countries where capital is invested, the desirability of doing all that is possible to mitigate loss of life and property is at once apparent. The destruction which accompanied the recent earthquake in San Francisco had a very marked financial effect in England and other countries. The City Hall alone cost £1,200,000 while the total cost has been estimated at £60,000,000. Insurance companies no doubt know the extent of their responsibilities, while the total losses which extended over the whole of Central California can only be estimated by many millions. Now our attention is directed to the wilderness of ruin just created in Central Chili.

Price in Money and Lives.

Although it is too soon to form a monetary estimate of the widespread damage, we already hear that millions have been lost at several places. The total will not be large, but it will be large enough to stagger many insurance offices and companies who have investments in the shattered area.

The annual loss of life in the world occasioned by earthquakes is, on the average, about 3,500. This number is fairly in accordance with the numbers lost during the past twelve months. On October 8, 1891, Japan lost 9,960 of her people, or double the number lost in her war with China. The wounded numbered 19,994. With a single earthquake in 1896 the loss of life in the same country approached 30,000. If we turn to the loss of property, after the earthquake of 1891, thirty million dollars, or six million pounds, was required for the restoration of railways, roads, bridges, and other public works. In addition to this 128,750 houses, together with factories, temples, and other buildings, had to be restored.

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In 1897, after a disastrous earthquake in Assam, the Chief Commissioner of that country reported to the Secretary of the Government of India that their own resources had been exhausted, and, with the object of restoring various public works, a grant from the Imperial revenues would be required to assist his administration. The total damage occasioned, much of which had to be met by shareholders in railways, tea factories, and other industries, was roughly estimated at £5,000,000. Speaking generally, a large earthquake in a populated country often results in damage to the extent of several million pounds.

If it is asked whether these expenditures can be reduced the answer is distinctly in the affirmative. One of the outcomes of modern seismology has been to devise instruments which measure earthquake motion. From a knowledge of the actual nature of earthquake motion derived from the use of these instruments new rules and formulæ for the use of engineers and builders have been established. In Japan and other countries these have been extensively applied in the construction of piers for bridges, tall chimneys, walls, ordinary dwellings, embankments, reservoirs, etc. Inasmuch as the new types of structures have withstood violent earth-shakings, while ordinary types in the neighbourhood have failed, it can be confidently stated that much has already been accomplished to minimise the loss of life and property.

Applied Seismometry.

As a side-issue to this work it may be mentioned that the application of seismometry to the working of railways, particularly in Japan, has led to the localisation of faults on lines and alterations in the balancing of locomotives. The result of the latter has been to decrease the consumption of fuel. Of late years instruments have been devised to record earthquakes' motion which cannot be felt, with the result that a person living in any one part of the world can record and obtain definite information about large earthquakes originating even as far off as his antipodes. These records of the unfelt movements of earthquakes indicate the time, position, and what is of more importance, also the cause of certain cable interruptions. The practical importance of this latter information, especially to communities who may by cable failures be suddenly isolated from the rest of the world, is evident.

On at least one occasion the failure of cables connecting the Australian Colonies with Europe was regarded as an operation of war, with the result that military and naval reserves were called out, and until it became known that the interruptions, had been caused by submarine disturbance off the coast of Java a certain anxiety prevented. A recent illustration of the relationship between earthquakes and deeper communications occurred on January 31 of this year, when an earthquake off the coast of Columbia resulted in the interruption of no fewer than eight cables. Observations now being carried out in England and other countries are indicating sub-oceanic districts which should be avoided by the cable engineer.

Forewarned.

The many occasions that earthquake records have furnished definite information respecting disasters which have taken place in distant countries, correcting and extending telegraphic reports relating to the same, is another indication of the practical utility of seismic observations. Seismograms have frequently apprised us of sea waves and violent earthquakes in districts from which it has been impossible to receive telegrams, while the absence of such records has frequently indicated that information in newspapers has been without foundation or at least exaggerated. The localisation of the origins of these world shaking earthquakes has indicated sub-oceanic sites of geological activity and positions where the hydrographer may expect to find unusual depths.

Seismometry is therefore not merely an academic study increasing our knowledge of the nature of the interior of the planet in which we live, but it is one of immediate practical importance to all who have financial interests in earthquake-shaken countries. Insurance companies may require an inspection of an electric installation before taking up risks against fire: but hitherto I am not aware that when insuring against earthquakes they demand any report upon construction. They defend themselves against the acts of God; but yet policies are frequently not sufficiently comprehensive to guard against the acts of Nature. The British Government is fairly liberal in the support it gives to those who study the oceans, the atmosphere, and the stars, but it does not see its way to assist practical investigations about the earth itself. The result is that year in and year out the British ratepayer pays for the rebuilding or repair of Government buildings, while the investor accepts risks rather than safe investments.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, September 22, 1906.

THE DURGA PUJA.

To the Hindu mind speculation is one of the most congenial of occupations. However one may try to bring the East and West together, their distinctive characteristics remain apart, and nowhere is the separation more marked than in the ideals of the two. The ideal and the cast of the two minds are as wide as the poles. The synthetic mind of the oriental Hindu has its counterpart in the analytic mind of the occidental European. But western education has wrought a great change in the Eastern mind. There has been all around, in various departments of human activity, an analytic enquiry into the working and origin of things. Even a child when hearing a story from its grandmother stops to enquire if that is true. Many modern Hindus, while observing their religious and social customs find that either they have outgrown them or that they have not been instructed enough to understand them. They must, therefore be understood or given up. So, it is not exact to abjure existing things altogether. They may be upheld by something else.

It is true that religious festivals are going out of use among the Hindus gradually. The new spirit has been at work since the introduction of English education. We think this is about the best time to examine the connection of the existing festivals with the old ones. In fact, almost every existing religious custom, practice and worship the relic of old Vedic times is to be found. Let us try to trace the origin of the Durga Puja, the great national festival of the Hindus in Bengal.

The earliest known record of the Aryas as may be found in the Vedas, is said to date over a thousand years back. About the age and place of the Aryans there has been a divergence of opinion. The Indians generally date them many, many thousand years earlier, while the Western scholars count near four thousand years. The place of abode is also disputed. The latest exponent is M. B. G. Tilak, who places the Aryans in the Par region, while European scholars speak of the Central Asian tableland as the common abode of the early Aryans. One of Mr. Tilak's suggestions is that the Dawn described in the Vedas is the aurora of the polar region. The detailed and poetic description of Ushas in the Rig Veda deserves more than a passing notice:

Ushas or the Goddess of Dawn, is an important and favourite Vedic deity, and is celebrated in about twenty hymns of the Rig-Veda, and mentioned more than three hundred times, sometimes in the singular and sometimes in the plural. These hymns, according to Muir, are amongst the most beautiful in entire collection; and the deity to which they are addressed, is considered by Macdonell to be the most graceful creation of Vedic poetry, there being no more charming figure in the descriptive religious lyrics of any other literature. In short, Ushas or the Goddess of Dawn, is described in the Rig-Veda hymns with more than usual fulness, and what is still more important for our purpose is that the physical character of the deity is not, in the least, obscured by the description or the personification in the hymns. Here, therefore, we have a fine opportunity of proving the validity of our theory, by showing, if possible, that the oldest description of the dawn is really polar in character.—B. G. Tilak's "The Aryan Home in the Vedas," p. 81, Poona 1903.)

We do not mean to discuss the theory started by Mr. Tilak. Our point is that the hymns addressed to Dawn have come, in a strange way,

down to the present time. If the theory be right, the rapturous verses of the early Aryans welcoming light in the far north, are handed down to those in the tropics. Of the female deities of the Vedic times, two only of them, Saraswati and Ushas, have been preserved through the Pauranic age, in our own time. Mr. C. Dutt, in his *Ancient Civilization*, says :—

The Ushas is the only Vedic Goddess whose worship continues in India to the modern day ; all her modern companions, Durga, Kali, Lakshmi, and others are creation of a later day.

The identity of Ushas with Durga is not very difficult to trace. First of all, the Vedic mantras used in the worship of Durga give the clue. Then the character of the worship, i. e., the story that hangs round the Goddess—the story of Chandi that is read at the Durga Puja describing the martial exploits of the warlike Goddess, confirms the account given of Ushas. It is to be also remembered that the Mamaya or the great Goddess destroys evils which the flesh is heir to. Now, this victory over evil or darkness gives her the name of vijaya, the victorious. In the hymns to Ushas we find she goes to every house, small or great, brings with her, she does not grow old, she was born of the Gods to slay the powers of darkness, and as she shone in olden times, so she shines in the present, and will shine in the future, never aging, ever immortal ; and so on. Another strong similarity between Dawn and Durga : It is laid in the Puranas that in the worship of Durga there is no distinction of caste. A chandal, a very low caste and a mlechha, an infidel are free to worship her. Like Dawn, Durga gives wealth to her worshipper. In fact, most of the favours to be conferred are applied to her. It is curious to see how in two different ages, the Vedic and the Pauranic, the forms of worship are vastly different. In the Vedas there is no mention of temples built by man, as there is no personification of any deity except in the phenomenal nature. In later times temples were raised and in the place of the objects of nature adored by priest-singers or Rishis, we see symbols and representations. The sacrifices offered to the Vedic Gods, who were not represented, have also come down to us as sacrifices to the Gods and Goddesses in their present forms. There were particular animals to be sacrificed to particular deities. For example, in the Black or Yajur Veda, a white goat is prescribed for Vayu, the God of winds, a black goat with a white foot for Varuna, and so on. In the Rig and Atharva Vedas also such distinctions are to be met with.

The ascription of the character of Dawn to Durga, almost every detail brings us to the conclusion that the splendid phenomenon of nature, aurora, that dawned upon the minds of the early Aryans, has been preserved in the Pauranic Durga. Our Durga is worshipped not only during the day but she is also said to conquer the darkness of unconsciousness or maya being herself the Mahamaya.

Last of all, the various parts in connection with the puja or worship when analysed, go to show that we worship the light that overcomes darkness and also in order to get light so that we may not be enveloped in darkness.

The different figures that are grouped round Durga as also the lion and the demon are all symbolical. The first are embodiments of light or knowledge, the others representing the lower

instincts of man to be overcome by the goddess or light. The mantras uttered clearly prove this point. The explanation may be ingenious, but probably it is true, though astronomical truths are hidden in the names of the deities. But, as it is, we worship light, and let us pray this light or knowledge may bring us the blessings of Heaven.

The following stanzas from one of the finest hymns to Dawn furnish a general picture of the fairest creation of Vedic poetry, and they apply to our Durga as well :

The light has come, of all the lights the fairest,
The brilliant brightness has been born, far-shining.
Urged onward for god Savitr's uprising,
Night has now yielded up her place to Morning.

The sister's pathway is the same, unending :
Taught by the gods, alternately they treat it.
Fair-shaped, of different forms and yet one-minded,
Night and Morning clash not, nor do they linger.

Bright leader of glad sounds, she shines effulgent :
Widely she has unclosed for us her portals.
Arousing all the world, she shows us riches :
Dawn has awakened every living creature.

There Heaven's Daughter has appeared before us,
The maiden flushing in her brilliant garments.
Thou soverain lady of all earthly treasure,
Auspicious Dawn, flush here to-day upon us.

In the sky's framework she has shone with splendour :
The goddess has cast off the robe of darkness,
Wakening up the world with ruddy horses,
Upon her well-yoked chariot Dawn is coming.

Bringing upon it many bounteous blessings,
Brightly shining, she spreads her brilliant lustre.
Last of the countless mornings that have gone by,
First of bright morns to come has Dawn arisen.

Arise ! the breath, the life, again has reached us :
Darkness has gone away and light is coming.
She leaves a pathway for the sun to travel :
We have arrived where men prolong existence.

SIR BAMPFYLDE FULLER AND HIS ANONYMOUS FRIEND.

SIR Bampfylde Fuller was all on a sudden called upon to occupy the throne of new Bengal. The giddy height was more than enough for a man of his stamina. His power was vast, and his head was turned. He saw from the dizzy height things and men too small below. The soil also seemed to him to be uncongenial for British institutions. One by one he lost the traditions of his race and engrafted upon himself the despotism and grandeur of an absolute monarch. Shaista Khan attracted his eye, and he wanted to devise his rule accordingly. Poor soul ! who can call back the dead past ? The men and institutions that are gone, are gone for ever. The revival of time means the revival of men, institutions and their surroundings. What Britisher alive to his own institutions would allow him to walk back to the dark ages ? If he

were society himself and his power unlimited, would he not be horrified at self-immolation? In the living world of men and things one can not, at will, make of a youngman a child, or vice versa. It is a mere unmeaning figure of speech to say that one would walk back to Akbar, Charlemagne, or Napoleon, however earnest one might be. History may guide, inspire and teach us, but never can carry us back to them, or bring them up to us. In the world of ours what is enacted, is once for all. As no two men are alike, so no two institutions. 'History repeats itself' is one of those pleasant dreams that keeps us in company with the past. Events are similar but never identical. To expect to revive the past is more imaginary than real.

Immensity of power made Sir Bampfylde lose his head. He thought he could do everything he liked. Pooh, pooh! one can do nothing on earth. How little we do. He assumed himself all powerful. And infallible too. For the time being he forgot himself, the High Court, the Supreme Government, the Secretary of State, the British Parliament, and the King. To forego one's home, one's institutions, one's law and all, is an impossibility. However one may come down his age, one can not enact what his predecessors have done. The change of circumstances determines the change of events. So it was an empty threat to revive the role of Shaista Khan. It shows the temper of the mind, but time can never be recalled indeed. What is gone, is gone for ever.

He did not receive a check to the repressive measures which he hatched one after another in rapid succession. They received rather the tacit acquiescence of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State. He grew more bold and reckless and thought he was his own master and responsible to none, and could do anything he liked with impunity. He imagined that the new province was made for him, and he for it. Yes! he was given over-indulgence. Luckily for him and unluckily for the country, Lord Minto and Mr. Morley were new-comers in office. They necessarily did not think it wise to interfere with the doings of an old and experienced chief. The time of sacred silence of probation had passed away, when they began to see with their own eyes and hear with their own ears. The jobbery of their subordinate drew their attention. They began to rebuke him softly. But he proved intractable. The rope broke at last, the tension being too severe. Sir Bampfylde had no other alternative but to retire. And honourably too. He thought himself an expiatory sacrifice. We do not deny him the privilege of this consolation as if it were a soothing balm. But when he believes himself the aggrieved party and Mr. Morley and the Viceroy the true offenders, we cannot keep silent. Surely, Sir Bampfylde is the last man in the world to deserve public sympathy on this score. He is not wronged, far less is he innocent. He has, no doubt, disobeyed his superiors and robbed the sleep of a highly peaceful nation by his repressive measures. He inaugurated his oppressive rule by quartering military police at Barisal. And what was the reason for this undue harshness? He saw sedition everywhere and hence the state of siege of the place. He let loose a band of illiterate Gurkhas upon a highly peaceful people and flew into rage at their seeming insolence for not having presented to him an address of welcome. He treated the men of

Serajunge with similar harshness. And what for? Some schoolboys were said to have insulted a certain bank manager. Next he enrolled a number of leading men at Rangpur as special constables. And why? Some schoolboys of tender years had the audacity to shout Bande-Mataram at Rangpur in public streets. Can recklessness go further? These and other acts made his rule felt in the course of a week or two. He overlooked famine and flood in his pursuit of the schoolboys. It, amongst other things, told heavily upon his mental constitution. He threw overboard all law, discipline, and constitution, and became law unto himself, trampling under foot the feelings and traditions of his race. He took unto himself the issuing of illegal circulars, as if he himself were the Legislature. In the short period of a few weeks, he proved, beyond doubt, that the partition was "absolutely justified" and sowed with his own hand its untold blessings.

The king can do no wrong. Perhaps he derived his inspiration from this fiction. So the quaking's doings are justifiable at any cost. What he did in the name of his sovereign, was done with justice and authority. Perhaps such was his inference. He treated tender boys as hardened criminals and got assaulted and humiliated, innocent and unarmed men. Symptoms of Bande-Mataramphobia developed in him. He expelled some three hundred schoolboys from schools and dispersed lawful meetings.

The people sought the protection of Lord Minto as the head of the Government. His Lordship could not give them the much-needed protection. As a new man he had to uphold Sir Bampfylde's decision, at least for the sake of prestige and to avoid friction. His Lordship held out no hopes at least to one of the Calcutta Associations. Gradually, His Lordship discovered something rotten in the state of Eastern Bengal. So, Mr. Morley had reason no more to be reticent. He was gathering facts to form his opinion, which he would not do hurriedly, although he was daily pestered with questions in Parliament. Both Mr. Morley and the Viceroy were in the same boat at first. Sir Bampfylde grew still more rigid and held fast to his policy of unmitigated license. Soft rebuke and significant hints had no effect upon him. He began to tighten his iron grip. He seemed to turn a deaf ear to them and persevered in his repressive method all the more. At last, as a weaker vessel, he took refuge in resignation to avoid a recall.

Sir Bampfylde was nevertheless a master of taste and diction. His phrases and fables, his tropes and epigrams, his parables and clean-cut expressions, are often repeated now-a-days. We quote from the "Indian Social Reformer":—"He (Sir B. Fuller) started badly. His speech in which he compared the Mahomedan and Hindu populations of East Bengal to his two wives was in the wretched taste which afflicts the attempts of Englishmen to speak in what they erroneously believe to be the style and imagery of the Oriental. No cultivated Oriental would have employed a parable so indecorous and vulgar. The Great Akbar had said that the Hindus and Mahomedans were the two eyes of the Empire, and the metaphor was instinct with the dignity and insight of the Orient. It went straight to the hearts of the

"people and impressed them with a sense of the need of co-operation and the danger of disunion." His Sinasta Khan has become a household word to us, people are so fond of quoting it often.

The Hindus and Mahomedans so long lived in amity and peace. There was no dispute to disturb the harmony existing between them. By his unguarded expressions and partial proclivities he infused into the minds of the illiterate portion of the Mahomedans the idea that they could break the law with impunity as long as Sir Bampfylde was in their province. He would screen their lawless behaviour. And they have reason to be so over-confident. Sir Bampfylde patted them in season and out of season. From refractory rayyets they grew more and more insolent and defied all law and order. The illiterate low class Mahomedans are easily excited and thereby constitute a danger to the State.

Such a zaiberdast is unfit to rule. An indecent haste and deliberate disregard of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State, marked his procedure. Circular after circular was issued, and blunder after blunder made. When one was withdrawn by order from home, another was issued to supplant it.

The sharp rebuke of Mr. Morley had no deterrent effect upon him. He pursued his heavy repressive measure. Like a spoiled child he would have his own will and way. His autocratic rule made the people lose all faith in British justice. The hand of retribution was, however, near and his downfall was complete.

Lord Curzon saw the birth of the nation and Sir Bampfylde was its wet nurse. The one enunciated and formulated a policy, and for want of time, failed to carry it out completely. The other did practically what his master had left unfinished. The advent of Lord Curzon and Sir Bampfylde marks a new phase in the annals of British India.

Gradually, Sir Bampfylde waxed extremely rigid, lost the balance of his mind and inaugurated a rule of terror in East Bengal, quite antagonistic to British administration. He thought his superiors would uphold him in whatever he would do. The High Court and the Viceroy would not check his vagaries done under the pretext of quieting down sedition and preserving public peace.

None has done him more mischief as he himself and I. C. S. The clamour of "disloyal and lying Babus" saved his face a good deal. But he himself and I. C. S. came forward to finish what was left undone. We had the consolation, in spite of his repression, that he was against partition. In some country a critic is made to swallow his own criticism by way of punishment. Sir Bampfylde ate his own. In his reply to the Mahomedan address, he said "His nine months' experience enabled him to say that the partition was absolutely justified.... Lord Curzon's policy was a wise and far-sighted policy and he was right in thinking that partition of Bengal was absolutely necessary and would be beneficial." What he could not see in his calm moments, he realised in despair. "A farewell dinner is like reading one's own epitaph—this is my epitaph. The partition (was a great) measure which demanded an expiatory sacrifice I am the sacrifice." This is the language of impotent grief and chagrin. Mr. Morley and Lord

Minto, we believe, are too solid statesmen for this thin veil of hopeless effusion.

I. C. S., though unknown, is a host in himself. He arrogates to know the secret of Sir Bampfylde's resignation. He says authoritatively and in unmistakable language that he was dismissed on the clamour of disloyal and lying Bengalis. His letter is short, racy and grandiloquent, giving in a succinct form Sir Bampfylde's rule, the campaign of vituperation waged by a few rampant and seditious Bengalis, and its far-reaching effect upon the State, reading a lecture to Mr. Morley and Lord Minto on government and many called-for and uncalled-for things, but always keeping his eagle eye upon the turbulent Babus, enumerating all the civil and criminal cases instituted against Englishmen by these foul-tongued demagogues to whose agitation these false cases, if not the Darjiling murder, are due. His letter contains everything worth saying except fairness.

SIR ANDREW FRASER AND THE RULE IN BENGAL.

THE Belvedere Musnad is developing intermittent rule in Bengal. Formerly no Lieutenant-Governor could have leave during the usual term of office. Now he can be absent from his post for six months. With that leave rule in operation, Lieutenant-Governors are often sick or on leave. Sir Rivers Thompson, Sir Charles Elliott, Sir Alexander Mackenzie were all on leave Sir John Woodburn, who would not go on leave, died at his post, the first instance of the kind. He had been ailing long and for several months he had practically ceased to rule, the Chief Secretary Mr. Buckland, acting as Governor.

The choice of Sir John's successor fell on Sir Andrew Fraser. After the labours of the Police Commission, to recruit his health, he had to go home before he could join his new post. He was not Lieutenant-Governor for two and half years when he again went on six months' leave. During this period and before his return, we have two temporary Lieutenant-Governors in Mr. Hare and Mr. Slacke.

Before Sir Andrew Fraser assumed charge in November, 1903, the post was kept warm for him by Sir James Bourdillon for a whole year. His first effort was directed towards lessening the burden of administering an undivided Bengal which was too heavy for one man, although he had neither previous experience of the province nor first knowledge of his own to act upon. He had his way which was the wish of the Viceroy, and Bengal was partitioned against her will by Lord Curzon in October, 1905. Relieved of half the burden of his charge, he appears to have found the task no easier; for six months after the partition he proceeded home on sick leave.

The two prominent acts of his two and half years' rule have been the Ranchi College Scheme and the appointment of a Civilian as Director of Public Instruction. Both have gone against him in his absence from India.

The first has been knocked on the head, and the second has led to a change in the rule about appointment or rather withdrawal of power.

Mr. John Morley has been not only speaking of carrying into effect his liberal principles, but, as later events show, has been actually putting them to practice. A growing public opinion cannot with wisdom be disregarded is what seems to be the view of Morley-Minto rule in India. The Viceroy appears to be a man of sympathy and not to allow his lieutenants their own way. The Resolution of the Home Department, dated Simla, 14th September, 1906, of the Government of India, is the result of the public protest against Sir Andrew's obstinate act of allowing a civilian to direct the Public Instruction in Bengal. The Resolution says that the Secretary of State has recently reconsidered the question of the appointment of Director of Public Instruction. The Resolution of 23rd July, 1896 gave power to Local Governments to

appoint the Director of Public Instruction. The powers now withdrawn and future appointments are to be governed by the Resolution of 4th September, 1886, which empowers the Government of India to appoint a Director.

Though it is not incumbent on the Government of India to absolutely choose a man from among educational officers, yet it is said in the Resolution that when an outsider is appointed, but always from the educational line, will have preference, measures will be taken in good time to give the officer on whom the choice would fall, a wide experience of the working of the Department in all its branches. This qualification takes away the objectionable part of the resolution.

Whatever the necessities of the partition, it has not been beneficial to the two Lieutenant-Governors. The first second Lieutenant in the new Province did not do. The first relieved finds little relief. He has been no good to the first second or to himself. He had to go on leave after the Partition and on his return he will find himself almost a new man at Belvedere, to begin again with reduced power and stricter supervision.

MARRIAGE OF MISS ETHEL KAMINI PHEAR.

WE extract the following from *Exmouth Journal*, of Saturday the 25th August, 1906:

The marriage between Miss Ethel Kamini Phear, elder daughter of the late Sir John B. Phear, of Marpool Hall, Exmouth, and the Rev. J. Kito Baker, late pastor of Glenorchy Congregational Church, Exmouth, took place in the Wesleyan Chapel, Mortehoe, on Tuesday, in the presence of a large congregation. Miss Phear and her family being well known in the village. The chapel was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the Rev. Principal Chapman, L. L. D., of the College, Bristol, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Walter H. Lovell, of Newton Abbot, formerly of Exmouth, and the Rev. Thomas Dixon, of Lifecombe. The bride wore a dress of net and lace, trimmed with old Hamilton lace, the train, also of Hamilton lace, being a present from the Bideford Salterton Women's Liberal Association. She wore a toque of net and lace with floral crown, and was attended by her sister, Miss W. M. Phear, who wore a charming gown of cream embroidered with blue lace. The bridegroom was attended by the Rev. C. A. Baskwood, of London. Before the service wedding music was played, and at the conclusion Wagner's "Wedding March" and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." And showers of confetti and the hearty good wishes of their friends, the happy couple drove to Castle Rock, where a reception took place, and later the bride and bridegroom left for London en route for the Continent, for the honeymoon. The bride's going away dress was a grey cloth coat and skirt, trimmed with white, and hat to match.

The presents were numerous and costly, and included the following of a public character to the bride: The Exmouth Women's Liberal Association dressing bag; Bideford Salterton Women's Liberal Association, Hamilton lace net; Devon Union of Women's Liberal Association, grand furrier cloak; ladies of St. Thomas Board of Guardians, silver-mounted hand-bag; old people on parish pay at Exmouth, silver sugar tongs and morocco book; the women of the Mortehoe Liberal Association also sent a present. This being the first wedding solemnized at the Mortehoe Chapel, the Trustees presented the bride and bridegroom with a handsome June book to commemorate the event.

A retired medical practitioner, of long residence in Exmouth, speaks of the town, thus:

Exmouth (population 11,000) is a well laid out attractive and rapidly-rising health resort. It looks south-west, has an open front to the sea, is well sheltered from north-east and south-east winds, and its sea breezes are bracing and refreshing. Its climate is equable at all times of the year, and the rainfall is low. The drainage is satisfactory, the sewage being carried well out to sea. The water supply (lately acquired by the District Council) is abundant, and the water pure and good, with one degree of "hardness." The views from the place itself are fine, the sunsets grand, and the country around beautiful. Charming promenade and marine walk, and delightful country walks and drives; the far-famed Bilton gardens are within easy distance of the town. The boating is safe, the bathing excellent, with fine stretch of sands upwards of two miles. Experienced boatmen; good anchorage for yachts. There are Archery, Tennis, Croquet, Cricket, Golf, Hockey, Football, Yachting and Swimming Clubs; Fishing—splendid trout fishing in the Otter; Hunting—Otter hunting from May to August; Fox hunting (East Devon Hounds)

in winter; Public Rooms for Concerts, Theatricals and Balls. Public Gardens, shady Plantation, prettily laid out Beach Garden, &c., &c. There is a good Band; open air Concerts are given in the summer. Social life is pleasant. The Churches and Chapels are well served. Good Schools. Four Banks. Numerous shops of every kind. Several Libraries. Post Office Service is good (four deliveries daily except Sunday). Exmouth has a Gentleman's Club, also a Masonic Club. The accommodation for visitors, whether in Hotels, Lodging-houses, or Boarding-houses, is excellent. There are several well qualified medical men in the town. Steamer Excursions which are made daily through the Summer, from May to October, to all the neighbouring watering-places east and west, and the Eze River. Trains are most attractive. Exmouth is 10½ miles from Exeter and 4½ hours from Waterloo. Omnibuses and Cabs meet all trains. Seaside Launch Service to Starcross to meet certain G.W.R. trains. With the natural and the added advantages here enumerated, Exmouth may be looked upon as a pleasant place for the healthy permanent resident, an agreeable resort for the visitor, a correct locale for the weakly born as well as for the confined invalid; also for the convalescent. The death-rate is exceedingly low.

Marpool Hall has been the residence of the Phears for more than a quarter of a century. It is a beautiful spot even with the present railway through it. Sir John Budd Phear and his wife Lily Phear, both of whom are dead, were very useful to Exmouth, incessantly working in its interest. The daughters too, true to their training and the memory of their parents, have been very popular there. The newly married lady is the firstborn of her parents while they were with us in Calcutta. Sir John Budd Phear was a distinguished Judge of the Calcutta High Court in its early days. He was also one of the best Chief Justices of Ceylon. He will be long remembered for his learning and fearless independence on the bench, as for his breadth of views and large sympathy with the Indians as a citizen. His activity was marvellous. Lady Phear was no less distinguished for her accomplishments and large-heartedness, and she took a great delight in encouraging female education. During their sojourn in Bengal both Sir John and Lady Phear received their Indian friends at their house on terms of perfect equality, a rarity in Europeans in India. Miss Ethel Phear is a young lady of good culture and education, who has been following in the footsteps of her parents. Born at Ballygunge, Calcutta, she was educated at Girton College, Cambridge, where she obtained double honours. She has led a busy life in various capacities in connection with women's associations which are now coming into prominence in England as in other countries. Let happiness and prosperity always attend her married life.

The newly married lady will always be dear to Bengal. She bears a Bengali name given by her parents to mark their love of Bengal. Her sister is expected to come out to India this cold weather. She writes to a Bengali friend:

"I will certainly try to come to Calcutta some time, and see all old friends there. I cannot tell you what a joy it is to me to come out to the land of my birth and visit the old friends."

THE Durga Puja season in Bengal is a season of rest. The High Court's long vacation commenced on Friday the 31st August. The Court will reopen on Monday, the 12th November. The subordinate Courts' holiday began from Mahalaya, Tuesday the 18th September. They will reopen on Monday, the 22nd October. The general 12 days' holidays run from this day to Wednesday the 3rd October, the offices reopening on the 4th October. The commercial holiday is limited to four days—Monday the 24th to Thursday, the 27th September, and two days—Tuesday the 2nd and Wednesday the 3rd October.

It is the rule in the Bank of Bengal, Calcutta, to pay the money as it suits the Bank, not according to the requirement of the presenter of a cheque. The exception made is in favour of depositors in the Bank and in payment of Establishment bills. This is an inconvenience, no doubt, but there seems to be no arrangement to satisfy all parties. This inconvenience to the public seemed to have been felt by the Cashier and he

ordered the encashment of a cheque in the manner wanted. This order was not obeyed, as it not could not be, for, we believe, want of necessary hands. The matter came to a crisis when a Eurasian Assistant in the Bank, to oblige a friend, sent a chaprasi with a cheque noting in what form the payment was to be made. There was delay. The Cashier was appealed to for punishment of the delinquents. He forthwith passed the order, on the last day of the last month, the last day of a month being the day for payment of the salary of that month in the Bank, stopping the pay of the native Assistants who, he thought, had disobeyed his order in the matter of payment according to the wishes of the payee. The difficulty of acting according to that order was explained to him, but he would not yield. He had made his order and it must be obeyed, though the heavens fall. In despair, the affected went up to the Secretary for justice. Mr. Gray is no gib, in the singular or the plural number. Without proving a stick to hook or injure, he at once saw through the danger ahead at the present moment, if salaries of the Indians were stopped, for no fault of their own. He immediately overruled the Cashier. We doubt not the Indians were grateful to the Secretary for this order of cancellation.

THERE is a Committee in Calcutta for collecting old cloths for the distressed people of Butsal. The number of pieces already despatched is 760,—dhutis, saris and shirts. In our Ward No. XI, there was a collection on Sunday and Monday last. The young men who volunteered for the work, in their noble begging expedition, secured 197 pieces of dhutis, saris, etc., all of them old ones. One giver offered a new cloth and another a rupee for a new pair of dhutis. They were made over on Tuesday last to be taken to Backerganj the same evening.

VEGETARIANS do not exclude milk from their diet. In fact, strict vegetarians of the present day look upon milk as their chief article of diet. The strictly religious Hindus avoid milk and its preparations living upon fruits and leaves. In modern times, Hindu widows are found to live on very poor diet consisting of fresh milk and certain fruits. Milk is indispensable—to the baby as to the old. Those that do not drink it have been compelled to abandon it, thanks to the adulterated character of milk in big towns. Hitherto all attempts made by the Calcutta Corporation towards supply of good milk have failed. Recently it has started a milk stall in the Municipal market. The purity of milk is absolutely necessary for health. Cholera, tuberculosis and such other deadly diseases are sometimes attributed to bad milk. It is not an easy task to find the adulteration of milk. We take the following from the July number of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture:—

"A case of milk adulteration was recently brought to the notice of the Board by the Local Government Board for Scotland. The defendant in a milk prosecution stated that the milk was sold exactly as it came from the cows, and that he could explain the weakness of the milk in no other way than that the milk from newly-calved cows was mixed with the milk of other cows. The Board were asked whether this liquid, known as "beastings," or colostrum, could properly be sold as milk. It is a question how long this fluid—which has a low content of butter-fat—continues to be secreted, but it seems clear that it does not assume the character of ordinary milk for at least three days after the date of the cow's calving, and the view taken by the Board of Agriculture is that the fluid in question is 'not of the nature, substance and quality of the article demanded by the purchaser,' who asks for 'milk,' and that if it is sold without disclosure, the seller commits an offence under sec. 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875. Milk that at all partakes of the colostrum should not be sold or mixed in any proportion with ordinary milk. Apart altogether from its abnormal composition colostrum can not be regarded as an attractive food for human beings."

In Hindu families such milk is never drunk.

AN APPEAL AGAINST ANIMAL SACRIFICE.

Jain Swamioor Conference Office.

To His Highness the Maharaja Sahib.

Protector of Kine & Brahmins, Supporter of the Helpless, Protector of the Subjects, a Jewel of India, adorned with the virtues of Justice, Mercy & Forbearance, well versed in Religion etc, etc,

May it please Your Highness,

As heard by us, offerings in the shape of male buffaloes & goats are offered to please & satisfy the Goddess on the sacred & religious Dasheru Holidays in Your Highness' territory. Possibly this is done, under the impression that Your Highness' territory may not suffer from Plague, Cholera Small-pox and other kindred terrible curses on Man, but we beg to submit that notwithstanding the annual recurring offerings to the Goddess, these terrible visitants have in no way slackened their horrid work. Every human being, rich or poor, has to reap the fruits of the actions of his past life & these monstrous visitants are only the punishment of the wicked actions of Humanity.

Can it be called just & fair to offer dumb, innocent, pitiable animals to escape these? Can the Almighty be pleased in this way? The echo says "Never."

The British Dominions also are visited by the same terrific curses and which disappear in due course of Nature but no such sacrifices are ever offered for the pacification of these curses in the British territories. Only sanitary measures are adopted for the pacification of these visitants.

Animal offerings are not scientific or according to Scripture; which decision has very often been arrived & testified to by able & learned Pandits & some humane Rulers following true Scriptures have secured the blessings of these dumb creatures by totally prohibiting such sacrifices in their territories.

We request Your Highness who is kind-hearted, intellectual and lover of Justice, to forbid the killing of any animals on the Dasheru Holidays & thereby protect the "Dharma."

Your Highness', Most obediently,
(Sd) VIRCHAND DIPCHAND C. I. E. J. P.
Resident General Secretary.

Champa Gali, Bombooy, September 1906.

"SPENCE" COTTON.

INDIA'S "PHILOSOPHERS" STONE FOUND

Sir,—It is a fact well known to commercial circles in this country that deterioration in the staple of its raw cotton during the past 20 or 30 years has given rise to the gravest anxiety. It is greatly feared that if this deterioration continue in the same proportion, the chief product of India's soil will ultimately prove useless, even for the low quality of yarn and cloth at present produced in her mills. It has therefore become commercially the burning question of the day how to produce a long-stapled cotton which may be universally

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sirkir, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court,

Secretary.

Dr. H-m Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyaaratna,

Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal,

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their V kshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bhabani, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

grown in place of the very inferior varieties which are now raised. This has been spoken of as the "Philosopher's Stone" of Indian Agriculture, and the news will be warmly welcomed throughout the land that this precious stone has at length been found.

I have had the good fortune to discover that there exists a tree, practically indigenous, at present growing in various parts of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, which produces a cotton infinitely superior both in classification and staple to American cotton, and in classification alone cannot be equalled in Egypt. It is an astonishing fact that the value of this tree's product has not up to this time been discovered by any one in the cotton trade, notwithstanding the fact that the tree has been known to exist since the time of the Mahims, and probably for hundreds of years previously. The only uses to which the cotton it produces has so far been put are the manufacture of wicks for lamps in Hindu temples and the stuffing of beds and pillows.

I first saw the tree in a friend's garden at Deesa, and on examining the cotton obtained from it at once recognised its great value, and set to work to obtain information in the neighbourhood with regard to its origin. I found there were a number of similar trees in other gardens, and that a few miles from the town there was a large hedge entirely composed of them, from which I was able to procure a large sample of cotton. After carefully examining it I unhesitatingly expressed the opinion that it possibly would ultimately revolutionise the cotton cultivation of India. I then sent samples to Bombay and Liverpool where experts in the former city classed it as "Fine," white in colour, staple $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, and said it would spin up to 60s. In the latter city it was classed as "Superfine," colour white, staple $1\frac{3}{16}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and valued at 7/8d. per lb. above the price of "middling" American. I then decided to undertake the cultivation of the tree on a large scale, bought up the available seed and made arrangements to procure all grown in the neighbourhood in the future.

There are now considerably over 100,000 trees on this plantation in a most flourishing condition growing to a height of from four to five and-a-half feet, full of buds and bolls and bearing cotton daily, after being planted only six months. The quality of the "new crop," 1906, cotton is superior both in classification and staple to that of the parent tree. The yield the first year has been estimated by experts at a minimum amount 2 to 4 ozs. per tree, and as there will be over 3,204 trees to the acre, this gives a total yield of 400 to 800 lbs. per acre, which is above the average of Egypt, and no less than from eight to sixteen times greater than the average of all India. The second year's crop will probably be double the first, and the third year's double the second. Each succeeding crop will no doubt increase still further, as it is well known that trees of this variety, after the third year, have yielded five or ten lbs. of clean cotton per tree annually during a known life of 20 years and over. It will thus be seen that if one-third of the cotton-growing area of India were planted with this tree, the result of the second year would be a crop far in excess of that of this country and America put together. The quality is so excellent that it opens an entirely new field for Indian manufactures, the importance of which, bearing so greatly as it does upon the future prosperity of the country, cannot be overestimated.

I was formerly for twenty years a member of the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association and have had five years' experience of cotton-growing in Egypt. This cotton has been called "Spence Cotton" in recognition of the fact that I was the first to discover its important value and to bring it to the notice of the commercial community.

Several cotton trees have been tried in this country, notably those from Peru and Brazil, but the first will not grow in the plains at all, and the latter has not been found practically suitable to the climate. The great advantage and importance of the "Spence Cotton" tree is that it is practically indigenous, that it has been found all over Western India, and no doubt exists in the East, and that it will grow and flourish practically in any soil in this country.

Wellso Cotton Plantation,
Deesa, 8th May 1906.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. SPENCE.

Sir,—Since the publication in the Press of my letter on the subject of "Spence Cotton," I have received innumerable congratulations from all parts of India for having been fortunate enough to discover a cotton indigenous to the country and infinitely superior both in staple and appearance to that grown in the United States of America. The immense importance of this and the wide-field it opens in the future for the extension of India's manufactures, I am glad to find, is recognised on all sides. I

therefore feel confident it will interest your readers to learn the results of a trial of "Spence Cotton" in the mills of Bombay. This Messrs. C. N. Wadia & Co., of the Century Mills Co., Ltd., have been good enough to carry out for me, and the following is their report:—

"Bombay, 11th, September 1906.

J. R. Spence, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—We have passed the 4 bags of "Spence Cotton" through the processes of spinning and weaving, and have now the pleasure to forward you herewith sample of cloth made therefrom, which we believe is the finest that has ever been made in the power looms from Indian-grown cotton. The cloth is made from 40 warp and 50 weft, and from this trial we are satisfied that the cotton will spin a good 50 warp and 70 weft. From this cloth can be made in fine dhories for which a great demand exists in India, particularly on the Bengal side, thanks to the Swadeshi Movement. To be able to grow such cotton is one of the best things that the Indian Mills could wish for, and will open up quite a new and very profitable trade, if they will get machinery suitable for the longer staple. If we had had a larger quantity of cotton with which we could have continued the trial, making necessary changes we are sure a still finer cloth could be made from it. The total loss of weight in blow room is only 3 per cent and we would gladly give 7 annas per lb. for this cotton."

The excellence of the cloth proves the correctness of the opinion I held eighteen months ago that this undoubtedly is the raw material from which the "Dacca Muslin" was made many years ago, which acquired a world-wide reputation for the excellence of its quality. Experts in Bombay and Madras were of the same opinion at the time. Messrs. Forbes, Forbes, Campbell & Co. have kindly consented to show samples of it at their offices in Hornby Road, to those desirous of inspecting it.

In spite of the abnormally bad season on this plantation,—for last July we had 26 inches of rain in two days and not a drop afterwards for seven months, when on the 16th February the heavy unseasonable rain did incalculable harm,—I am glad to be able to state that my first estimate of the yield per tree has been found to be correct. Average trees a year old were marked and all the cotton carefully put into separate bags, the result being an average of 2½ oz. per tree. But I am most anxious to be absolutely on the safe side, and have therefore reduced my present minimum estimate to 1½ oz. per tree, and as 5,000 are now planted to the acre, this gives a result of 4,000 lbs. of clean cotton or one bale per acre. The second year this is doubled, and increases enormously afterwards during the tree's known life of twenty-years.

I am exceedingly glad to read the favourable reports of the extensive trial of Egyptian seed in Sind. I have had five years' experience of Egypt, and four years ago strongly recommended it to the commercial community of Bombay, selecting the South of Hyderabad as the most desirable spot to cultivate it. I am naturally much gratified to find that my anticipations of its success have been amply verified. The chief difficulty, of course, is to induce cultivators to adopt the Egyptian methods in place of their present crude ones, and this must be done every season; whereas in the case of "Spence Cotton" the difficulty has to be overcome but once in twenty years, and it will grow and flourish in any soil instead of being confined to Sind only. The immense advantage of this tree over the annual shrub is evident to the meanest capacity. Take the yield first: the late Mr. J. N. Tata estimates the average all over India at 30 lbs. of clean cotton per acre. I have visited every cotton growing district of any importance in the country, and consider this is much too low. I am of opinion the average on non-irrigated land is from 45 to 50 lbs. per acre—a deplorably poor return, in Egypt the average is 400 to 500 lbs., and in the United States 200 to 250 lbs. I have a method which would more than double the present yield and at very little extra outlay or necessity for intelligence; but why cultivate such rubbish at all? Forty years ago Hinghahat, Broach, Osmaroti, Barai, Bhowanagar, Tinnevely and Dwarwar all produced excellent staple cotton; now, through apathy, gross carelessness, ignorance,

TRY THE INFANT'S



CHILD & CO.,

2-22 & 2-23, Chowringhee.

natural deterioration of seed and want of manure the quality of the staple is so poor, short and weak, that it is not to be wondered at that the Lancashire mill-hands have boycotted it. Commercially its good name has gone past redemption, and in spite of all that may be done either to introduce exotics, or by selection of the best stapled indigenous descriptions, the good old name of "Surnas" will never be re-established. Further, the former have proved failures, with the notable exception of Egyptian, which will only flourish in one special climate, and the latter are not good enough to make any appreciable difference or improvement in the existing deteriorated quality, which will never be in demand, except locally, and for export to the Continent and Japan. If the interests of the ryot are to be considered it is to an increase in the yield that all attention should be directed—to quantity not quality. But I have for some time come to the conclusion that the days of the annual shrub will soon be numbered, to be replaced by the tree with its immense advantages of excellent quality and large yield. There is one not far from this plantation twelve feet in height, with a trunk as thick as a man's thigh and covered with thousands of bolls; it is seven years old. Other trees near it are reported by the owner to have produced albs. of clean cotton in their third year. The vital importance in India of a good paying yield the first year has convinced me of the necessity of planting 5,000 trees to the acre; after the second year I intend to cut down or transplant every alternate row.

I am glad to say there has been absolutely no sign of boll-worm or green-fly on the plantation, but in the event of blight or insect destroying the crop, the trees remain as strong as ever, only requiring weeding, pruning and manuring with their own seed-cake for many years to come. I am now selling "Spence Cotton" seed at Rs. 10 per lb. and have executed orders in the following places:—Srinagar, Bombay, Bagalkat, Belur, Trichinopoly, Travancore, Ranchi, Sarghoda, Hyderabad (Sind), Miranshah, Khannadla, Clarkabad, Dehra Dun, Calcutta, Tellicherry, S. Japur, Cocanada, Jogcherrob, Jaipur, Coimbatore, Hubli, Allepy, Nellampattu, Saklasapur, Bimlipatam, Pariala, Pannapetram, Amraoti, Ahmedabad, Murazapur, and Akola. For the protection of the public I would mention that all communications are signed by myself, or by Captain G. A. Farrell, Chief Superintendent.

Zemindars and small cultivators in this district and at Ahmedabad are all planting it. At the present moment thousands of young strong, healthy trees can be seen round the Cantonment of Deesa in a most flourishing condition. A London Company has been registered for the purpose, and I am now making arrangements for cultivating many thousands of acres next year. I shall be happy to give further information to those interested in the project.

Only one or at most two crops of the annual shrub can be grown in succession, to be replaced by cereals giving a very poor return, whereas the "Spence Cotton" tree lives for twenty years, and probably much longer, requiring after the first year merely to be kept from weeds, pruned and manured. What can the apathetic ryot desire more? Nature would seem clearly to have devised this tree to suit his fatal fascination for repose and amazing capacity for doing as little manual labour as possible.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. R. SPENCE.

Wellao Cotton Association,
Deesa, September 1906.

SCARCITY IN EASTERN BENGAL.

The 6th September 1906.

The following summary of the reports received from the local officers up to September 1st is published for general information:—

The number of persons on relief shows a decrease in Faridpur and Bakerganj, where labour is now plentiful and the harvesting of the early rice and jute crops has brought much money into the hands of the cultivators.

The total figures for relief in the province stand as follows:—One hundred and sixteen persons on relief works, 3,507 persons in

IMPORTANT WARNING—When asking for WILKINSON'S SAR SAPARILLA see that no deceiving and disappointing imitation is offered. All respectable Chemists and dealers in Medicine supply WILKINSON'S SARsaparilla which has a worldwide reputation of over 70 years "as a superior preparation always reliable." Notice the name and trade mark on all packets to imitate which is a felony.

receipt of gratuitous relief, total 3,623, against 5,016 persons relieved during the previous week.

The week has been one of abnormal floods. The main rivers rose steadily up to the 27th August, the water being backed up by high tides accompanied by strong southerly winds. The floods thus occasioned have done some damage to the early rice and jute crops and have prejudiced the prospects of the winter rice crop in some of the southern districts, but the prospects of this latter crop have improved elsewhere. The floods are now subsiding, and it is not anticipated that very widespread injury will result from them, though no accurate estimates can yet be framed. Unfortunately the dislocation of communications caused by the floods, and the delay that has occurred in the preparation of the early rice for the market, have caused a sharp rise in the price of food stuffs, which has involved much temporary distress to the poorer classes. The latest reports show that large supplies of rice are being brought into the province from Calcutta and Rangoon, and that prices are falling in consequence, but they still stand at a very high figure.

The 13th September 1906.

The following summary of the reports received from the local officers up to the 8th September is published for general information:—

The number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief has remained stationary in all the districts, except Mymensingh and Noakhali, where the numbers have fallen from 1,074 to 765 and 1,712 to 668, respectively. In Bakerganj there were only 32 persons in receipt of relief. The total figures for the province are as follows:—

114 persons on relief works and 2,082 in receipt of gratuitous relief, total 2,196 against 3,623 persons relieved during the previous week.

Besides the above, 2,589 persons received casual relief in Dacca. Floods are now subsiding rapidly. The information as to the damage done by them is contradictory, but it appears that the outturn of the early rice crop has been very fair, while the prospects of the winter rice, which is still being replanted in some areas, are good. Prices remain very high in spite of the importation of very large supplies from Burma and Calcutta.

P. C. LYON,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

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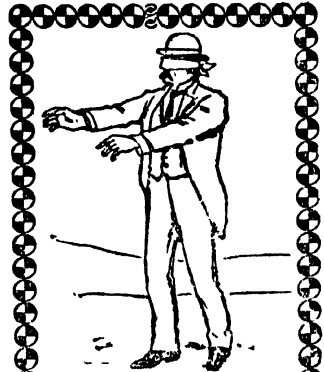
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Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer
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about his correspondence which make it very
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K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions
Bengal, 20th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing
official duties an English Civilian can find
either time or opportunity to pay so graceful
tribute to the memory of a native personality
as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of
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well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta;
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who are more worthy of being thus honoured
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Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with
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A man of large heart and great qualities
his death from pneumonia in the early spring
of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss
to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable
idea on Mr. Skrine's part to compile his *Life and
Letters* upon record.—The "Times of India"
Bombay, September 30, 1905.

For much of his biographical matter that
issues so freely from the press an apology is
needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee
the Editor of "Reis and Riyet" appeared, an
explanation would have been looked for. A man
of his remarkable personality, who was easily
just among native Indian journalists, and in
many respects occupied a higher plane than
they did, and looked at public affairs from a
different point of view from theirs could not
be supposed to sink into oblivion without some
attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual
expedient of a biography. The difficulties common to
all biographers have in this case been increased
by special circumstances, not the least of
which is that the author belongs to a different
race from his subject. It is true that among
Englishmen there were many admirers of the
renowned Doctor, and that he on his side under-
stood the English character as few foreigners
understand it. But in spite of this and his
remarkable assimilation of English modes of
thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee
remained to the last a Brahman of the Brah-
mans—a conservation of the best of his in-
heritance that wins nothing but respect and
approval. In the execution of this biographical
undertaking would have been one of his own
disciples, with the same inherited sympathies,
and trained like him in Western learning. I
bengal had produced such another man as Dr.
Mookerjee, it was he who should have written
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are of such minor importance that they
might have been omitted with advantage, but
not a word of his own letters could have been
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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICAL LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,240.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH ASWIN, 1313.

To the Editor, "Reis and Rayyet."

Sir,—A great show in the form of renance is proposed for the 30th Aswin or the 16th October, the ill-fated day of the partition of Bengal. Last year, without much deliberation, the ordinance of fasting or *salahar* was obeyed by many with the consequence that the price of milk and the other constituents forming *salahar* rose very high. This year the same observance is proposed without a thought of the evil that may follow it. In my personal experience I have observed many cases of cholera and diarrhoea after the *salahar* of Dashara and Panchami of Arandhan in Bengal. Some of the signatories pose as social reformers. They are for widow marriage and discourage castes, but are not in a position to reform the social evils which affect Public Health. There are others who live like Europeans and are probably not prepared to sacrifice their luxury of food and drink. In that incongruous company of Hindus, Bramhos, Bichhis and Mahomedans, the curious feature is the evolution of *salahar* or fasting. How far the notice is a recommendation or persuasion, an injunction or order, remains to be seen.

Further, the Hindus of Bengal, on the death of their parents, do not fast but take rice (atap) and a few vegetables, cooked in one boiling process. With them, in the matter of food, that is the highest form of penance. If a like measure is recommended, there is a chance for the arrangement being accepted. The observance, of the day, by fasting and *salahar* creates an unpleasantness with regard to the food-supply and the consequent evils of those arrangements. It is the second Arandhan in a year, falling a month after the first.

The assumption of the role of Dictator during the present critical situation is not easy to conceive. Is the mandatory epistle the fruit of sober conclusion of the fifteen—12 Hindus and 3 Mahomedans? Or as a routine business, the injunction was issued by one of them, to be signed by the rest?

The circular enjoins the repetition of the Swadeshi vow. Without such vows, Bombay is reaping a harvest. But how does Bengal fare?—Yours,

Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri.

Calcutta, 9th October, 1906.

A SIMLA MINOR SOCIAL FUNCTION.

THE Simla Friends' Union held a social gathering at the Kali Bari on Sunday, the 7th of October 1906, under the presidency of Mr. B. A. Gupta, F. Z. S., Personal Assistant to the Director of Ethnography for India, who was formerly Deputy Minister and Member of Council, Indore State. The following is the programme:

1. Concert.
2. Election of President.
3. Song.
4. Reading of Report of the Union.
5. Charade.
6. Recitation :—
 - (a) Sanskrit.
 - (b) Bengali.
7. Recitation :—
8. Song.
9. President to address the meeting.]
10. Light refreshments.

The President said :—

At the eleventh hour when a High Court Judge has not been

able to preside as previously arranged, I am asked to lead you to success, but I must confess that I am a poor substitute [cries of No, No.] Ours is a social function, pure and simple, beginning with music and ending with pastry. The work is simple enough and pleasant enough, if we avoid any speech-making or political seed-sowing under a social garb. The only word of advice I am inclined to give is to prepare yourselves for the heartiest possible cooperation with our Hindu Arvan, Brahmo, Moslem, Saiya, Vaishnav, Shakta, Christian, Jew or indifferently constituted sects. Shakespeare tells us that this world is but a stage, and we are all actors. Act then your to-day's social part without suspicion as to the origin, birth, nationality, political creed or profession of any our friends gathered here. During my stay of five seasons at Simla I never had the pleasure of witnessing a social gathering of so many castes and creeds except in the precincts of the Viceroyal Lodge without the wooden paddocks of official etiquette and free from even a few guarded social greetings. But here we are quite free to-day, and are among a wider circle of friends, neighbours, associates, or migratory birds of the same feather. Our time for a flight to the south for fear of a blight in the hills has arrived, and it was a very agreeable surprise to me to see before the last meeting of our club a proposal to form this social gathering. I am specially glad to see my little friends—the children of the guests—ready to join us in our innocent enjoyment of free and unreserved intercourse with one another. Some ladies were invited but they could not come for fear of offending social feeling. Suspicion is still the bane of the Indian society as Mr. Barlow, an M. A., a Principal, and an Editor, tells us—“Under what he calls ‘the general sense of mistrust that prevails in India.’” It is a regrettable state of affairs “when one man mistrusts every body else but there is no denying the fact that, this is fairly a general condition of mind amongst the Indian people, and there is also no denying the fact, that in respect of the lower classes at any rate, the general sense of mistrust is not altogether a monomania in the national brain. But,” adds our monitor, “it goes without saying that there are in India crowds of honourable men of unimpeachable integrity, but this general sense of mistrust exists nevertheless and a want of confidence between man and man must necessarily be a most serious obstacle to”—I shall add “Social Intercourse.” If a gentleman of Bombay is received by a gentleman of the Punjab as a friend, you will find almost go out of two residents of Simla peeping, pointing their fingers and whispering lots of things, not exactly scandals. If a Brahmo lady takes a drive with her reformed husband, all the windows of the road-side houses are seen teeming with spectators as if a royal procession is passing the road. If a Bengali sees a lady sitting in the verandah of his friend's house from another province, he is frightened and returns home giving up the idea of visiting him. The next time he meets him he apologizes he was sorry he could not do himself the honour of returning his friend's visit because there were ladies sitting in the gallery. Many of my own friends here will endorse what I am telling you. What does this show? Want of confidence in your friends and even in your own self. Let us therefore practically prove to-day and in the future that we have made up our minds to mend our ways and to mix freely with all castes, tribes, nationalities, denominations, sects, or professions in our social intercourse with Bhadrals, and that we have this day resolved upon repeating the social gathering every season before migrating back to the plains, and that we have conjointly made up our mind to do full justice to our refreshments without the fear of the justices or the gendarmes, the imaginary borgis of timid people who are afraid of joining even this most innocent of gatherings imaginable. We shall go home and assure them, that Government do not in any way discourage purely social gatherings,

and that they need not be terrified like babies lulled to sleep with songs like : "Borgi yelo Deshe."

Do run up my little friends to the refreshment bars, for there is no borgi here, except your old friend the Maracha, whom you know so well, these five years.

The society and the assembled public both thanked Mr. Gupte for presiding and for his social traits and obliging manners as he has been much loved and respected by the Simla society. He will be missed, they added, as this is said to be his last season in Simla, owing to some proposed changes in his official position ensuring at the same time the performance of his present scientific and literary duties. The boys gave three cheers for the Emperor and the company dispersed quite pleased.

JOHN BROWDIE.

Many years ago, I was involved in a tragedy which has done more than all the bitter experience of after life to convince me that there is something in the maxim fathered on Talleyrand : "Speech was given to mankind to conceal their thoughts." During one of my many voyages to India by P. and O., our ship was joint at Port Said by a wealthy baronet of the North country attended by his valet. The latter was a huge, broad-shouldered Yorkshireman, whom I promptly christened "John Browdie." But he had none of the bonhomie of Dickens's creation. Citizens of a free country who stoop to servile employ are apt to salve their wounded self-esteem by carrying a stiff upper lip in intercourse with all who are not on their master's visiting list. The poet Alfieri has told us how his soul revolved against the air of measureless superiority assumed by Louis XV. at Court presentations. We detected something of his very Christian Majesty's pride of port in John Browdie's massive features, and it was peculiarly irritating in the promiscuity and close quarters of life on board ship.

Things came to a climax one morning when our vessel was leaving Aden. In that grilling region the ample bathing accommodation provided by the P. and O. often falls short of demand. Resolving to be first in the field, I rose betimes, and to my joy, found one of the small compartments untenanted. Leaving my towel therein to indicate ownership, I ran back to my cabin for a forgotten sponge. On returning, I found that John Browdie had evicted my towel, and was engaged in preparing my bath for his master! When remonstrance proved vain, I lost my temper, and used strong language to the intruder. My side was espoused by other passengers who flocked to the scene of action. The fleet officer was appealed to, and John Browdie was compelled to evacuate his little citadel. There was an ugly gleam in his small grey eye as he sulkily retired, which I ought to have taken as a danger-signal.

On the following night, I was leaning over the stern taffrail plunged in delight by the phosphorescent glories of the wake and Socotra's cliffs bathed in moonlight. It was passed 11 p.m., and the deck was quite deserted. Suddenly I felt myself gripped by the throat and held as in a vice. Then John Browdie's voice hissed close to my ear, "So aw'm a damned floonkey, aw'm I? I'll show thee how a floonkey serves such whipper-snappers! Oop thee goes!" With that, I was seized by waistband and collar and hurled into the foaming sea, my wild, despairing shriek drowned by the thumping of the screw.

Down, down, down I sank; and when, with a mighty effort, I gained the surface, I saw my erstwhile home rapidly receding in a milk-white track while the lights from the portholes shone out on the desolate waves. My frantic cries for help were unheard. In a few minutes I was quite alone in the Indian Ocean.

Being a strong swimmer, I struck out manfully for Socotra, which seemed to be about four miles away. Despite my utmost efforts, its shores gradually receded. An eastward current was too clearly sweeping me out to sea. Those who have escaped some great danger allege that during its throes their whole life is lived over again in thought. Mine ran back to boyhood, and I found myself repeating a distich from Ovid which partly applied to my desperate plight---

*Quocunque adspicias nihil est nisi pontus et act her,
Fluctibus hic tumidis, nubibus ille minax.*

Happily the sea was smooth, the firmament ablaze with unquenching stars. After floating a while on my back, I again struck out, this time at random, for my bearings were lost when Socotra

vanished from the horizon. At length I felt that my strength was spent, that I could not keep my weary head much longer above water. At this crisis I saw a dark object, like a rock, emerging from the sea, not fifty yards away. Hope gave new energy to my half-paralysed muscles. A few seconds later I was seated athwart

this coign of vantage, in comparative safety. But, alas! my asylum was itself at the mercy of wind and waves. It was a fragment of floating wreckage, the top and part of the adjacent masts of some large vessel. A thick coating of seaweed proved that it had been buffeted for many years by the ocean. Stripping off my white shirt, I spread it on the highest point, as a signal to passing craft. Soon the sun rose as a ball of fire in the east, and as the morning advanced its rays became uncomfortably warm. I felt a gnawing sensation within, and pangs of thirst which I dared not quench with salt water. A knife-like object circling slowly round my retreat showed that at least one shark was waiting for its prey. I hastily drew my legs out of the water, and wedged my body into a saddle-like depression in the floating mass. As the heat increased I became light-headed, sang and shrieked incoherently. Then the waves and sky began to revolve rapidly. I sank into a dreamless sleep.

When sense returned I found myself in a low-ceilinged cabin, the cynosure of a ring of swarthy figures squatted on their haunches. As I sat up, they greeted my restoration to life by a chorus of guttural sounds; but a greybeard, whose voluminous turban showed that he possessed authority, enjoined silence, and spoke to me in fluent Urdu. From him I learnt that my signal of distress had been seen from the Arab ship *Fateh Salam*, homeward bound to Hodeida from the Persian Gulf, and that a boat's crew had brought me with all despatch on board. Sweet was the mawkish fluid termed sherbet to my parched gullet, and a meal of dates and unleavened barley bread was enjoyed with greater zest than any banquet supplied by Messrs. Ring and Brymer.

On the good ship *Fateh Salam* I spent a pleasant if uneventful week. The weather was perfect; a steady breeze filled her sails, and the crew had plenty of time on their hands. They were very numerous, and I understood that every man had a minute interest in the cargo. They slept a good deal, cooked high flavoured messes, were punctual in the prayers enjoyed by Islam, and beguiled the long hours of darkness with excruciating music. The old skipper, Savvid Mohammad Ismail bin Curtas by name, and I became fast friends. He was a fine specimen of the rapidly-vanishing race of Arab navigators. Those who knew Calcutta a generation ago will, doubtless, recall the tiers of Arab ships moored in the Hughli south of Fort William. Many of them were tunkhy, wall-sided, and square-stepped—old Indiamen per chance which had once bidden defiance to Surcouff or Admiral Danois. Of such was the *Fateh Salam*, and their commander was nearly as antiquated and stout-hearted. Tobacco in any form was tabooed by Wahabi tenets, but an efficient substitute for the soothing weed was provided in delicious coffee. Every night we sat till the small hours in the captain's stern cabin, which still retained traces of gilding, swapping yarns over wonderful little silver cups of true Mocha.

One of the captain's is well worth repeating. His father, while in command of a country ship, bound for Calcutta with a cargo of Burmese teak, was wrecked in that *Dædalus* of forests and tidal creeks which fringes the northern coast of the Bay of Bengal. The old vessel speedily broke up, but her amphibious crew escaped, and set to work promptly at retrieving the teak logs which littered the shore. One morning, my host's father was standing on a pile of timber below high-water mark directing the operations of his men, armed with levers, chains, and caplippers. An incoming wave of unusual strength struck the mass, scattering its contents in all directions. When it retreated, the captain was seen, pinned by two gigantic beams, which had crushed his legs well-nigh to a jelly. Meantime the tide was coming in, and it was evident that the poor creature's minutes were numbered. Though he suffered untold agony, the old man was calm. At his request a boat was launched, and my host sat in the bows to record his father's last will and testament. Anon a wave would sweep over that silvery beard, which floated like seaweed in the tide; but as soon as it receded the dying man was sure to gasp out some new behest. "Stop!" he shrieked, as the remorseless sea gave him power of utterance for the last time. "Stop! I've forgotten to tell you where those thirteen thousand rupees were buried!" The rest was silence. I capped this story by one which I had heard, many years previously, from an old quartermaster of the Royal Navy. He was on board a man-of-war off Balacava during the terrible storm of November 1854, which wrought such havoc among the transports laden with stores for our troops before Sebastopol. His ship weathered the tempest, though for several hours it was touch and go with her. Less fortunate was a Turkish frigate. Despite all that nautical skill could suggest, her cables parted successively, and the helpless vessel was driven by sheer wind-powers towards the towering cliff on her lee. As she swept past the English ship, she presented an awful spectacle. The entire crew was seen kneeling in prayer on the deck; and a mighty shout, "La Illa ul Alla!" rose high above the deafening blast. In a few minutes she was dashed to matchwood against the basaltic rocks that guard Balacava Bay. This implicit belief in the Creator's goodness; this heart-whole sub-

mission to His will, were the secret of the Khalifa; successes a thousand years ago; such inspiring dogmas have no analogy in the West; nor can their place be taken by surag materialism.

In such discourse our short voyage passed pleasantly enough; and I was quite sorry when the cinder-heap, yclept Aden, loomed on the starboard bow. Old Sayyid Ismail bade me an affectionate farewell. He evaded my suggestions of pecuniary reward with quiet dignity. I belonged, he said, to the "People of the Book," and the Most High had commanded true believers to succour the afflicted. Pressing into his hand my sole remaining possession—a watch which, being watertight, had not suffered from its immersion—I stepped into a shore-boat and pushed off amid a salvo of "salams" from the crew.

The garrison of Aden was prodigal of offers of assistance as soon as my story got wind. Loans of money and clothing were fired upon me, and I was thus enabled to embark for Bombay in the next mail steamer. On arriving in the capital of Western India my first care was to telegraph news of my preservation to distant friends. Then I betook me to the police office in order to exact retribution from John Browdie. After recording my complaint, the superintendent exclaimed, "Why, that's the very man who committed suicide at Ellora a fortnight ago!" This surmise found ample corroboration in a file of the "Bombay Gazette." My would-be murderer had shown signs of mental aberration while accompanying his master on a tour through Central India, and was found one morning suspended and stone-dead in the bath-room of a Government rest-house. Truly conscience doth make cowards of us all!

F. H. SKRINE.

---The "National Magazine," October, 1905.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, October 13, 1906.

EARTHQUAKES.

By earthquake we understand a quaking, vibratory, undulating or other movement of a portion of the earth's crust, produced by forces acting from beneath. Earthquakes are more frequent than they are felt. It is supposed that on a moderate estimate, an earthquake occurs somewhere every day. What runs up the number of such occurrences is that there is generally a series of shocks at a place instead of a single one. Most of these are on a small scale; but others affect a wide area. In Japan, between 1885 and 1892 about 8,331 were recorded, that is, more than one thousand disturbances occurred every year. Great Britain is crossed about 100 times a year by earthquake waves.

It may be said that our earth was formed by earthquakes. If Laplace's Nebular Hypothesis has been replaced by the spiral theory of Chamberlin and Moulton suggested by the formation of the rings of Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune and Uranus, the fact remains that there was considerable disturbance when the spiral nebulae were formed. The spiral nebulae of Lyra, Messier, and many other stars tend to prove the same. "The heavens show us thousands of spiral nebulae, which are evidently in a state of rotation round a spiral nucleus, but which will probably take ages before they have finally consolidated into suns and solar systems."

The consolidation can not be uniform. This ununiformity of the crust undergoing rotation is liable to be displaced in some portion or other. With regard to our earth the same fact is observed.

During Palaeozoic times many mountain ranges were formed, and accompanying these orogenic processes there was marked volcanic activity. In the succeeding secondary period plutonic forces were quiescent, but during the formation of the early Tertiaries, when some of the largest mountain ranges were created, they awoke with a vigour greater than had ever been previously exhibited. If the statement relating to the general decrease in bradyseismical changes referred merely to their frequency, and omitted reference to their magnitude, the views of the geologist and physicist might harmonize. One explanation of this divergence of opinion may rest on the fact that too little attention has been directed to all the conditions which accompany the adaptation of the earth's crust to its shrinking nucleus. As the latter grows smaller the puckerings and foldings of the former should grow larger. Each succeeding geological epoch should be characterized by mountain formations more stupendous than those which preceded them, whilst the fracturing, dislocation, caving-in of all ill-supported regions and creation of lines of freedom for the exhibition of volcanic activity which would accompany these changes would grow in magnitude.

The regular study of seismology began in Japan.

At mid-night on 22nd February 1880 movements more violent than usual occurred; chimneys were shattered or rotated, tiles slid down from roofs, and in the morning it was seen that Yokohama had the appearance of a city that had suffered a bombardment. The excitement was intense, and before the ruins had been removed a meeting was convened and the Seismological Society of Japan established.

Certain facts have been observed with regard to earthquakes. The premonitory symptoms are: irregularities in the seasons, sudden gusts of wind intercepted by dead calm; violent rains at unusual seasons or in countries where they rarely occur; a reddening of the sun's disc and a heaviness in the air continuing, it may be, for months; an evolution in the soil of electric matter, inflammable gas, with sulphurous and mephitic vapours; subterranean noises like those of carriage wheels, artillery or thunder; cries of distress emitted by animals; and drowsiness with a feeling of sea-sickness in men.

During the vibratory motion the ground at some spot heaves up or collapses and becomes the centre of vibration or undulation; cracks and rents are produced in all directions; great funnel-like holes yawn open; new lakes are formed, rivers are diverted from their courses; houses or other erections come down; and there is devastation all round the centre.

Of the old earthquakes, the cataclysm which occurred at Lisbon on the 1st November 1755 is a notable instance. Japan has suffered from the earthquake many times. The recent memorable vibrations are in Calabria on 8th September, 1905, in Cachar on 12th June 1897, in Kangra valley on April 4, 1905, in California on the 18th April 1905 and in Central Asia in July 1905. It is thought that the Central Asian devastation far exceeds them all.

We are not concerned at present with the volcanic earthquakes of Vesuvius, Pelee, or Bandaisau of Japan. Our effort is to take account of vibratory motions of the earth due to other causes besides volcanic. The evident cause of earthquakes is the rock fracture.

This peculiar association of earth-quakes with pronounced topographical configuration and certain geological conditions evidently indicates that the origin of many of them is connected with rock folding. Inasmuch as certain large earthquakes have been accompanied by rock fracture,.....we may conclude that the majority of earthquakes are spasmodic accelerations in the secular movements which are creating (and in some instances possibly obliterating) the more prominent features of the earth's surface. These secular movements, which include upheavals, subsidences, horizontal displacements, all of which are explained

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on the assumption of a crust seeking support on a nucleus gradually contracting by loss of heat, are collectively referred to as bradyseismical movements.

Professor John Milne every year presents a copy of his earthquake chart to the British Museum. These charts are his observations at the observatory at Shide, the Isle of Wight. From these charts the following is concluded:

It will be noted that, as any intelligent observer would have suspected, that the larger number of earthquake areas are situated where there is a great range of mountains, and preferably where the mountain range is in proximity to a sea-board, so that the mountain range slopes beyond the coast to the ocean floor. In such a case the actual perpendicular distance from the crest of the range to what we may figuratively call its foundation is much greater, and in speculating on the causes of earthquakes, we may regard the upper strata on this great pile of stratified rocks as tending to slide over one another. We may further regard the tendency as accentuated by the fact that the lowermost strata, being under very great pressure, are approaching that condition when they tend to lose their solidity and become viscous. Laboratory experiments have shown that given sufficiently high pressure iron can be made to flow. We may presume that the lower rocks will flow also. Therefore, a great mountain range situated next to an ocean is not in stable equilibrium, and a movement sometimes earth-shaking magnitude may be precipitated by very many apparently slight causes.

The most important question is the earth's configuration. A few years before Major Burtard of the Trigonometrical Survey of India ascertained from the recent Survey that the formation of the earth in the equatorial region is more elliptical than what we take it to be. It so happens that the mountains of Asia are situated in a position which runs from east to west. The tropical and temperate regions are affected on account of the broad ellipse. It affects the mountains of those regions of America though they run from north to south. The rotation of the earth's axis tends to produce disturbances. Leaving aside the slight causes, it is a chief factor in the creation of earthquakes. "Among these (slight) causes tidal influences and synchronous solar disturbances have been suggested, but the most interesting suggestion made during the last few years has been one which relates to the figure of the earth, and to the movements of the earth's axis. These movements of the earth's axis are not uniform, and if a curve be plotted showing the path described by the earth's pole in its periodic cycle, it will be found that the path traced is not regular, but contains irregular and sudden alterations of the curve. Now if the earth were a spherical body all parts of the surface which were in the same state of strain, it is conceivable that movements of this nature would not affect the stability of its crust. But it is evident that the crust of the earth is not of uniform stability, and it has lately been suggested by Sir G. H. Darwin and Mr. Jeans, of Cambridge, that the earth is not sphere shaped, but shows traces in its form of a period when it was pear shaped. The waist of the pear would be its weakest region or line, and along this line any strain resulting from sudden disturbances of earth's axis would be felt more severely than anywhere else. If the regions along this line of weakness had a predisposition or

susceptibility to earth-quake movement, then in a time of stress we should expect earthquakes to be manifest chiefly along this line." That, according to Professor Milne, is what we found last year.

Few other facts have recently been observed. The earthquakes on the west side of the Pacific Ocean are more frequent in summer while on the eastern side they are more frequent in winter. The most curious observations in Professor Milne's report are:

It has been found that under certain but frequently recurring conditions the two opposite sides of a valley move in opposite directions at the same time. On brightest, fine days the inclinations of the sides of a valley decrease. At night they increase. A valley may, therefore, be supposed to open and close. These conclusions, which do not necessarily apply to all valleys, are based on observations taken in two very different localities. The phenomena may be due to the general warping of a district under the influence of solar radiation, or to the differential effects of loading and unloading of portions of the same. During the day the sides of a valley covered with vegetation lose load by evaporation and transpiration, and therefore, underground drainage, tending to carry a water load to the bottom of a valley, is reduced. At night, with the cessation of these processes, the load at the bottom of a valley is increased. At that time streams and certain wells carry their greatest quantity of water. It is, then, for a night that a valley may be expected to sag downwards, a suggestion that finds support in the observation that during wet weather, when we see streams in flood, the sides of the bounding valley approach each other in a marked manner. The conclusion is that as the world turns before the sun its surface is measurably smoothed, while at night the frecklings on its face are measurably increased.

From all these facts, it can be deduced that the recently formed mountains disturb the equilibrium of the situation more than the old formations. "The seismic activity met with in the Himalayas and in the Alps finds its best explanation in the fact that these mountains are geologically recent, and there are no reasons to doubt that the forces which brought their folds into existence are yet in action."

We expect to get more disturbances in Northern India than in the Deccan for this country contains mountains which are geologically old formations. Their period of disturbance is getting gradually less. The higher the mountains, the more recently formed they are, and they create greater danger.

THE COMING CONGRESS.

SOME sensible and sober men hold themselves aloof from the Congress. And why? The reason is obvious. To them, it is a huge misnomer—a three days' Tamasha in which public money is frittered away. Were this country ever so rich, such a luxury would have been overlooked. But since the country is awfully poor, where the majority of the people get scarcely two meals a day and where famine and pestilence have become chronic, such a pound-foolish method of splitting the life-blood of a nation should not any further be connived at. The people are gradually awakening to the hollowness of the scheme hitherto pursued. Besides, a fair store of national energy is for nothing dissipated. This is a greater loss to the nation. At best, the Congress is a speakers' gallery where the workman's counter finds no place. Annually, the Congress holds its meetings here and there, a number of set and routine speeches are made, a number of unresolved resolutions are moved, seconded, adopted and circulated amongst themselves, or, at most, submitted to the Government, or to the Secretary of State, for kind consideration and the like, and then the greater Kumvakarna is allowed to hibernate

IMPORTANT WARNING—When asking for WILKINSON'S SAR SAPARILLA see that no deceiving and disappointing imitation is offered. All respectable Chemists and dealers in Medicine supply WILKINSON'S Sarsaparilla which has a worldwide reputation of over 70 years "as a superior preparation always reliable." Notice the name and trade-mark on all packets to imitate which is a felony.

peacefully for three-hundred and sixty two days of the year. A festival, it comes and goes away once a year, and for three days only, without the usual fervour. Yet, the Congress has done something which its worst enemies must acknowledge. That it has focussed together all the divergent forces of the country, is what none can deny. It has brought together so many different and isolated thinkers and workers face to face, who were ere long unknown to each other, and has made a living whole of the scattered workable materials. This is a great thing which we can father on the Indian National Congress. Surely an attraction it has been, and, to make it as useful, attempts have been made from time to time. The so-called Social Conference and the Exhibition ate to the point. As for the Social Conference, a lot of miscellaneous reformers hold their deliberations once a year, and for matter of that, globe-trotting Kulins have been in requisition to adjust the destinies of the people and to ameliorate their condition in a new and different line altogether. But the Industrial Exhibition to a certain extent enhanced the usefulness of the annual National fair. After several inductions, the direction has been found at last. The national mind has learnt, after much cost, the futility of the plan. Of late, a new era in the national life has dawned. Self-help, like a messenger from heaven, burst upon our sight. Swadeshi-ism seems to be the only deliverance of the teeming millions. The films in our eyes have dropped off, and we see a sight unperceived and undreamt of before. Never in the memory of living man such an earnest and genuine impetus has been given to the people to work out their own salvation. It is no man's creation, but an inspiration dawned upon the national mind. Dr. Rash Behari Ghosh observed wisely at the inaugural meeting of the National Council of Education: "The very sight of this assembly made the pulse beat fast and filled the confirmed pessimist—the elderly lawyers were always pessimists—with hope for the regeneration of the country for which nature had done so much and man so little." The law of deflection explains all social facts. It is the deflected cloud that but rains. As in Meteorology, so in Biology and Sociology, all results proceed from deflection, pure and simple. Look at the Genesis, Nourishment and the like. All social upheavals, as well, are due to the law of deflection.

The Congress will hold its usual annual sittings in Calcutta this year. Bengal orators were sometime sanguine of its success on account of Swadeshi-ism being made one of its planks. Some went so far as to expect it to be made the central plank. It is natural to have in all movements their Conservatives, Radicals and Red-Radicals. The Congress movement is no exception to the rule. But the Liberals of to-day are Conservatives of to-morrow. The change of plane heralds the new phase. The Extremists want to infuse new life and aspiration into the old and effete movement. Their unusual success of late has made them believe they might take the wind out of the sail of the Congress and make boycott of foreign goods its central object. In the meantime, an unfortunate incident in connection with Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee convulsed the Calcutta society, and Dame Rumour scattered the news far and wide with all manner of exaggeration, as a matter of course. The damaging report has greatly undermined his influ-

ence with his friends and given his enemies an occasion to be held fast to with both hands. They flung rancour after rancour and poured vitriol on him to their hearts' content. Whether the report was due to a spirit of puffing himself, or to the foolishness of his Reporter, or Printer, or the man in the street, we care not a pin; but we cannot exculpate him from the guilt altogether. We mind not to rake up the ghost any further than say that Babu Surendra Nath or a man like him, who has been posing as a patriot for the last thirty years at the least, should be, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion. The Extremists rejoice at it and think it his downfall. Mr. Khaparde's circular letter is too good to lose its importance. He insisted in unmistakable language upon the Congressmen the futility of mendicancy and the absolute necessity of self-dependence and self-help. He declared with great stress that it was perfectly useless to pass a number of resolutions and submit them to the Government for favourable consideration, a method which has proved a dead failure for almost a good quarter of a century. If the Congress is to be of any use, it should work on the new line of political self-help. Bengal was then surging with new thought and aspiration. Swadeshi-ism was in full swing, the mighty progeny of Bengal, was stalking fast far and wide all over the country. The appeal found a ready response among the youthful members of the Bengal school of political thought. Mr. Khaparde blew the trumpet and it was echoed and re-echoed with double fury. The Bengal Extremists went farther and gathered strength and courage at Babu Surendra Nath's discomfiture and began to feel how the people would take it if the staunch Swadeshi Bal Gangadhar Tilak's name was mentioned in connection with the presidentship of the forthcoming Congress. This, indeed, was catching. The sturdy Maratta Brahman is unquestionably up to the mark. He is neither a 'kancha' reed, nor his partizans unconstitutional. All the public sympathy was very strong for him and for those who were moving heaven and earth for him by all manner of legitimate means. Babu Surendra Nath is one of the Moderates who would like to move in the old groove and was greatly shaken by the new blood and the new school. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose seeing the things take a clumsy turn came to the rescue of Mr. Banerjee, and at once cabled to Mr. Dadabhai Naoraji offering the presidentship of the coming Congress. This appeared to some a countermove, and offered the Extremists ground for complaint. No doubt the steps taken by Babu Surendra and Bhupendra were hasty, and reflect a good deal of the want of regularity in their procedure. Be that as it may. Comparison is odious, more so in such an important question, and as regards such important personages. Whether the Maratta leader is a match for the Grand Old Man of India, we need not say anything.

CONTENTIOUS THEORIES.

THE September number of "East and West" contains "An Open Letter to the Indian Medical Service." For more reasons than one, the open letter is interesting, as it broaches many contentious theories which are accepted by the orthodox school as final. The first attack of the writer of the letter, "Sigma," is made on inoculations in general and particularly those of plague and small-pox. It is an open truth that both of these methods have failed,

for they are extremely unphysiological. The first law of nature is to imitate it in the creation of natural immunity. This can only be done by following the rules of personal and public hygiene. Artificial immunity at best is artificial, and it is simply unmethodical to supplant natural immunity by artificial means. The tedious researches of Metchnikoff and Ehrlich could not, with all their sophistry, replace the natural by artificial methods. The perverted human ingenuity has manufactured artificial butter from sawdust, but the trick has not been able to oust the natural product considering the physiological effect of the latter.

"Truth for truth and good for good!
The Good, the True, the Pure, the Just—
Take the charm 'For ever' from them,
And they crumble into dust."

The Science of to-day rose with chemistry, then physiology came to its aid. Even that was not sufficient to explain the minute workings of the vital process. The microscope aided pathology to discover microbes. They are wonderful discoveries, indeed! But have they been able to mitigate the human sufferings? The ions are now playing their role. Professor Loeb of Chicago could make reproduction in certain lower animals by injection of salt water. It is a marvel of marvels. All these discoveries are multiplying, but they have not been able to contribute relief in human diseases. Chemicals and drugs produced in laboratories are increasing in number, but they are vanishing away one by one playing its destructive programme. For fever there was antipyrine; then antifebrine took its place. Both of them were found dangerous in many cases. Their use caused many murders by the so-called men of science. What is their fate now? Perhaps a few years after they will be entirely forgotten. The Western nations follow traditions (fashion) in everything and even medicine is not beyond encroachment. They prescribe medicines for fevers, but the medical practitioners do not understand them at all. Such is their wisdom. It so happens that fevers are being treated every day more than other cases.

The writer of the open letter justly says:

"There are microbes everywhere. You have found large quantities in the milk of the cow—the cow held sacred in India for conferring innumerable blessings—and you think because that milk is not good for you, it cannot be good for the Indian. Similarly, the whole of your practice of medicine seems to be based on the assumption that what is good for a Briton must be good for an Asiatic."

The unfounded assumption is creating an artificial science which is destined to be thrown out some day or other. Observe the fate of political economy enunciated in Britain. The theories being inapplicable to India have ceased to hold any place of regard. So it can be predicted that an Indian physiology will drive out the theories of European physiology. The constitutional organisms of the carnivora are not necessarily the same of the herbivora. India now is the nursery of the British soldiers. The day may not be distant when Indian political economy, Indian physiology, Indian pathology, Indian botany, Indian geology, and everything Indian will revolutionize the European Science. *Ex Oriente lux*. Antipathy is mostly making place for homœopathy and isopathy. Sympathy must be the order of the day. Antipathic practice in any of its form can no longer

remain. Ehrlich's theory of receptacles is based on homœopathy. Hahnemann declared *similia similibus curantur*. The modern general treatment should be *similia similibus procurantur*.

TO-DAY, we resume our work after the holidays.

ON Saturday, the 29th September, at 11 A.M., Calcutta felt a severe quake of the earth. Luckily, it was not repeated and it passed off without causing much damage. The only inconvenience caused was the stoppage for a time of the electric fans.

AFTER the Great Earthquake, of 12th June, 1897, Babu Hiranmoy Mukerji, of Muktagacha, gave the Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal, the following earthquake formula:

"If you get famine, drought and plague in one and the same year, you get the earthquake that year."

He also wrote:

"According to Hindu Sastras such unnatural visitations will frequently appear in the latter end of the Kali Yuga or Iron Age. What have already appeared are mere preludes. The real ones are yet in store."

IN Garo belief, the earthquake is the action of the squirrel. According to it, the world is a square flat body hung up by a string at each corner. There is a squirrel which always tries to gnaw these strings. When one or two of these strings are gnawed, the earth turns upside down. To guard against the mischief, a demon was appointed. This demon, however, neglected its duty, so was punished with blindness. This punishment of the demon to make it all attention to duty proved ineffectual. In its blindness, it grew more neglectful to the advantage of the squirrel. This explains the frequency of the earthquake.

THE "Hindoo Patriot" (Monday, October 1) asks "Was the earthquake (of the preceding Saturday, the 29th September) due to the sales effected on the Lucky Day? (the antecedent Thursday, the 27th September) Earthquakes are known to precede great events, and that of the forenoon of the 29th September is followed by the birth, in the afternoon of the following 1st October, of "The Empire." That new evening Anglo-Indian daily of Calcutta is a shock to the existing three Anglo-Indian morning papers of this city. It is the lowest priced. The "Indian Daily News" was started because the "Englishman" would not reduce its rates, specially the advertisement charges. Now it has reduced its subscriptions. We hope the new paper will improve as it grows. Though a coloured paper, it proposes not to make any distinction of colour in its conduct. We give it a cordial welcome.

"HAVE we lived before?" is "a problem which must necessarily be of leading interest to our Aryan brother and we are surprised that it has not been more extensively discussed by the active body of our native contemporaries at a time when there is such a rattle of small arms going on, backed by the thunder of the big guns of position" (and honourable traditions), says the "Asian," and our leading sporting contemporary is "astounded that no one has discussed what other people may have been in their previous existences," because, as he says, "there is such a wealth of ammunition in this thing that one stands aghast at its being left untouched." After this, Max in "Capital" proceeds to dot the i's and cross the t's so skillfully evaded by the writer in the "Asian," and sermonises thus—"Now, the *Englishman* would do well to bear (its own advice to the *Pioneer*), in mind when writing of other people than Germans. It takes two to play at battlecock and shuttlecock, and it would do well to bear this in mind when writing about the Natives (capital N for natives if you please),

TRY THE INFANT'S



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of this country. But, I fear Sir Roper Lethbridge's control over my contemporary has ceased, as his views on this point were much at variance with its present lucubrations." (?) At this stage of the bombardment the *I. P. Gazette* chips in with the remark that "the recriminations of the antagonists have become too wearisome to be any longer amusing." But our youngest born contemporary of Mission Row pluckily calls upon the old Jala-pahur to "buck." Why? Does the "modest" Mr. Fraser-Blair wish to see Sir Roper dismounted? We remember the occasion on which the *I. D. News* of old compared the thunder of Hare Street to a hen. Now, as far as our knowledge and information goes, we dare asseverate that, the old utility hen in question, when she lays even the softest of soft-shelled eggs, can cackle with the clarion note of a chantecler, and when she kicks—well, the Ostrich isn't in the same street with her. But, the problem, or rather mystery, of previous existences remains. Will the venerable mahatma of Mott's Lane kindly take up the thread of the *Asian's* meditation, where Max suddenly broke into it, and enlighten us on the point—if only to remove the reproach of "worn out volcanoes," from a temporarily obfuscated "Adi-Native" Fourth Estate?

SIR ANDREW FRASER returned to Calcutta from his leave on Monday, the 8th October, and resumed charge of the Government of Bengal the same morning. He left for Darjeeling on the evening of Wednesday, the 10th October.

ON his way to, and from, home, he passed through the Central Provinces, his old love. On the first occasion, the visit was private, this time it has been public. On the 6th October, at Nagpur he unveiled the statue of the late Queen-Empress Victoria. Then he made one of his longest and best speeches. In the course of that address, he said:

"We have just returned from a visit to our dear homeland. There, despite many kindnesses shown to us, we often felt strangers in our own country. It is surely some compensation for this, to feel at home in the country of our adoption."

Of the late Queen-Empress, he said:

"She loved her Indian subjects, and they returned her love in deep loyalty and devotion."

He concluded thus:

"Gentlemen, memories of friends like these and work and life like this are a precious possession; and to make my memories, if possible, more precious still you send me away from you with these words, 'He loves the people.' They are generous and kindly words; and I think you. I shall never forget either them or you."

Sir Andrew Fraser is no Sir Bampfylde Fuller. He cannot have two loves in the Central Provinces and the Lower Provinces.

THE death, in the morning of Wednesday, the 10th October, at the comparatively early age of 50, of Babu Nalin Behari Sircar, C. I. E., a Kyastha, is a public loss. A merchant of this city and above want, he was not always for making money, but interested himself in his other duties as a man and a citizen. He was in the confidence of Europeans, he never omitted to take an active part in Indian movements, and he was honoured by Government. He led an active life for the benefit of himself and his family and for the advantage of his countrymen. The country's good was not his profession. He did that work quietly, without much fuss or flourish. The seventh Ordinary Meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, of which he was a prominent member, held on the day of his death, was adjourned in his memory. Such honour was also done to him, as an Honorary Presidency Magistrate, in the Police Court. By order of the officiating Chief Presidency Magistrate, the Bench courts were entirely, and those of the stipendiary Magistrates half, closed. The Calcutta Import Trade Association, of which he was Chairman in two successive years, 1904 and 1905, have mourned his death in a Resolution. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce have ex-

pressed in a letter to his firm their deepest regret. The late Babu Grish Chunder Gose wrote, in the paper he had founded, of the late Babu Rangopal Ghosh, "A typical man, a pattern man, a man of nerve, fit to command in a crisis of change." If Babu Nalin Behari Sircar did not come up to that standard, he leaves, nevertheless, a great example for his country.

WITH his mastery of Indian philology, Dr. G. A. Grierson considers that "Bande Mataram" is no song in honour of the fatherland or mothercountry, but "the same as the more colloquial phrase, 'Victory to Mother Kali, Kali Mai ke jai,' a formula in everyday use, but sometimes when uttered by an excited crowd, leading to lamentable excesses of religious violence." The suggestion probably is that, as a possible source of trouble to the administration, that song is to be suppressed, if not the worship of the Goddess Kali interdicted and the temple at Kalighat obliterated.

George Abraham Grierson, C.I.E., Honorary P. D. (Halle) with his Linguistic Survey of India and as the author of "Vidvapati and his contemporaries," is a greater authority on Bengali with Englishness than any Bengali Pandit. He must, therefore, be right whatever the Bengalis may think of his present interpretation.

THE *Indian Mirror* (Oct. 9) has:

"The *Times of India* says that Englishmen 'should regard all Indian communities alike, and abstain from creating mischief between Hindus and Mohammedans.'"

Is the principle of administration—divide and rule—to be given up? And do not Englishmen in India regard all Indians alike? A native officer of Government having asked the advice of a European officer above him—whether he should take off his cap while visiting a European, was told not to do so. His reason was that no bearer, kharasam, khutgatgar, pashor darwaza ever appeared before him without covering his head. To him, as to all Europeans, every Indian—Raja or Nawab, Ra Bahadur or Khan Bahadur, K.C.S.I. or K.C.I.E., C.S.I. or C.I.E., High Court Judge or District Judge, Munsif or Deputy Magistrate, or any other, is the same—the prince being regarded as no higher than a peasant.

THE MOHAMEDAN DEPUTATION.

ADDRESS TO THE VICEROY.

Simla, Oct. 1.

The representatives of the Mohamadan community deputed to Simla to present the Address to the Viceroy, collected in the hall room of Viceregal Lodge at 11 A.M. today. His Excellency, preceded by his Staff, entered the hall room precisely at 11 A.M. and seated himself on the dais. He was then conducted round the room by the Aga Khan and personally introduced to each member. After the conclusion of this ceremony the Khulfa of Patiala advanced and requested permission to present an address, which was then read by the Aga Khan. At its conclusion the Viceroy rose to reply, and in each of his replies to 'salams' rights and aspirations of the Muslim community, the representatives cheered. This ceremony concluded at 12.15 and His Excellency's reply was attentively listened to by the Deputation and by Lady Mayo, the Ladies Ellers, and the Hon. Mr. Howitt, who were present at the ceremony.

I give below the text of the address:—

May it please Your Excellency:—

Availing ourselves of the permission graciously accorded to us, the undersigned Nobles, Jagirdars, Talukdars, Lawyers, Zemindars, Merchants, and others, representing a large body of the Mohamadan subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor in different parts of India, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the following Address for your favourable consideration:—

2 We fully realise and appreciate the inestimable benefits conferred by British rule on the teeming millions belonging to divers races, and professing diverse religions, who form the population of the vast Continent of India; and have every reason to be grateful for the peace, security, personal freedom, and liberty of worship that we now enjoy. Further, from the wise and enlightened character of the Government, we have every reasonable ground for anticipating that these benefits will be progressive and

that India will, in the future, occupy an increasingly important position in the Comity of Nations.

3. One of the most important characteristics of British policy in India is the increasing deference that has, so far as possible, been paid from the first to the views and wishes of the people of the country in matters affecting their interests, with due regard always to the diversity of race and religion which forms such an important feature of all Indian problems.

4. Beginning with the confidential and unobtrusive method of consulting influential members of important communities in different parts of the country, this principle was gradually extended by the recognition of the right of recognised Political or Commercial organisations to communicate to the authorities their criticisms and views on measures of public importance; and, finally, by the nomination and election of direct representatives of the people in Municipalities, District Boards, and—above all—in the Legislative Chambers of the country. This last element is, we understand, about to be taken up by the Committee appointed by Your Excellency, with the view of giving it further extension; and it is with reference mainly to our claim to a fair share in such extended representation and some other matters of importance affecting the interests of our community, that we have ventured to approach Your Excellency on the present occasion.

5. The Mohamedans of India number, according to the Census taken in the year 1901, over sixty millions, or between one-fifth and one-fourth of the total population of His Majesty's Indian Dominions; and if a deduction be made for the uncivilized portions of the community encountered under the heels of Animists and other minor religions, as well as for those classes who are ordinarily classified as Hindus but, properly speaking, are not Hindus at all, the proportion of Mohamedans to the Hindu majority becomes much larger. We therefore submit that, under any system of representation, extended or limited, a community in itself more numerous than the entire population of any first-class European power, except Russia, may justly lay claim to adequate recognition as an important factor in the State. We venture, indeed, with Your Excellency's permission, to go a step further and urge that the position accorded to the Mohamedan community in any kind of representation, direct or indirect, and in all other ways affecting their status and influence, should be commensurate not merely with their numerical strength, but also with their political importance and the value of the contribution which they make to the defence of the Empire; and we also hope that Your Excellency will in this connection be pleased to give due consideration to the position which they occupied in India a little more than a hundred years ago, and of which the traditions have naturally not faded from their minds.

6. The Mohamedans of India have placed implicit reliance on the sense of justice and love of fair dealing that have always characterised their Rulers, and have in consequence abstained from pressing their claims by methods that might prove at all embarrassing; but earnestly as we desire that the Mohamedans of India should not in the future depart from that excellent and time-honoured tradition, recent events have stirred up feelings, specially among the younger generation of Mohamedans, which might in certain circumstances and under certain contingencies, easily pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance.

7. We, therefore, pray that the representations we herewith venture to submit, after a careful consideration of the views and wishes of a large number of our co-religionists in all parts of India may be favoured with Your Excellency's earnest attention.

8. We hope Your Excellency will pardon our stating at the outset that representative institutions of the European type are new to the Indian people. Many of the most thoughtful members of our community, in fact, consider that the greatest care, forethought, and caution will be necessary, if they are to be successfully adapted to the social, religious, and political conditions obtaining in India; and that in the absence of such care and caution, their adoption is likely, among other evils, to place our national interests at the mercy of an unsympathetic majority. Since, however, our Rulers have, in pursuance of their immemorial instincts and traditions, found it expedient to give these institutions an increasingly important place in the Government of the country, we Mohamedans cannot any longer, in justice to our own national interests, hold aloof from participating in the conditions to which their policy has given rise. While, therefore, we are bound to acknowledge with gratitude that such representation as the Mohamedans of India have hitherto enjoyed has been due to a sense of justice and fairness on the part of Your Excellency and your illustrious predecessors in office, and the heads of Local Governments by whom the Mohamedan Members of Legislative Chambers have almost without exception been nominated, we cannot help observing that the representation thus accorded to us has necessarily been inadequate to our requirements and has not always carried with it the approval of those whom the nominees were selected to represent. This state of things was probably,

under existing circumstances, unavoidable; for while, on the one hand, the number of nominations reserved to the Viceroy and Local Governments has necessarily been strictly limited, the selection, on the other hand, of really representative men has, in the absence of any reliable method of ascertaining the direction of popular choice, been far from easy. As for the results of election, it is most unlikely that the name of any Mohamedan candidate will ever be submitted for the approval of Government by the electoral bodies as now constituted, unless he is in sympathy with the majority in all matters of importance. Nor can we, in fairness, find fault with the desire of our non-moslem fellow-subjects to take full advantage of their strength and vote only for members of their own community, or for persons who, if not Hindus, are pledged to vote with the Hindu majority, on whose good-will they would have to depend for their future re-election. It is true that we have many and important interests in common with our Hindu fellow-countrymen, and it will always be a matter of the utmost satisfaction to us to see these interests safeguarded by the presence in our Legislative Chambers of able supporters of these interests, irrespective of their nationality. Still, it cannot be denied that we Mohamedans are a distinct community, with additional interests of our own which are not shared by other communities, and these have hitherto suffered from the fact that they have not been adequately represented. Even in the Provinces in which the Mohamedans constitute a distinct majority of the population, they have too often been treated as though they were inappreciable small political factors that might without unfairness be neglected. This has been the case, to some extent, in the Panjab; but in a more marked degree in Sind and in Eastern Bengal.

9. Before formulating our views with regard to the election of representatives, we beg to observe that the political importance of a community to a considerable extent gains strength or suffers detriment according to the position that the members of that community occupy in the service of the State. If, as is unfortunately the case with the Mohamedans, they are not adequately represented in this manner, they lose in the prestige and influence which are justly their due. We therefore pray that Government will be graciously pleased to provide that both in the gazetted and the subordinate and ministerial services of all Indian provinces a due proportion of Mohamedans should always find a place. Orders of like import have at times been issued by Local Governments in some provinces, but have not unfortunately in all cases been strictly observed, on the ground that qualified Mohamedans were not forthcoming. This allegation, however well-founded it may have been at one time, is, we submit, no longer tenable now, and,

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President

Shastri Gopal Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court,

Secretary.

Dr Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.,

Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna,

Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal,

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chatteropadhyaya
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vrkshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donations to the Secretary as soon as possible.

whenever, the will to employ them is not wanting the supply of qualified Mohamedans, we are happy to be able to assure Your Excellency, is equal to the demand. Since, however, the number of qualified Mohamedans has increased, a tendency is unfortunately perceptible to reject them on the ground of relatively superior qualifications having to be given precedence. This introduces something like the competitive element in its worst form, and we may be permitted to draw Your Excellency's attention to the political significance of the monopoly of all official influence by one class. We may also point out in this connection that the efforts of Mohamedan educationists have, from the very outset of the educational movement among them, been strenuously directed towards the development of character, and this, we venture to think, is of greater importance than mere mental alertness in the making of a good public servant.

10. We venture to submit that the generality of Mohamedans in all parts of India feel grieved that Mohamedan Judges are not more frequently appointed to the High Courts and Chief Courts of judicature. Since the creation of these Courts only three Mohamedan lawyers have held these honourable appointments, all of whom have fully justified their elevation to the Bench. At the present moment there is not a single Mohamedan Judge sitting on the Bench of any of these Courts, while there are three Hindu Judges in the Calcutta High Court, where the proportion of Mohamedans in the population is very large, and two in the Chief Court of the Punjab, where the Mohamedans form the majority of the population. It is not, therefore, an extravagant request on our part that a Mohamedan should be given a seat on the Bench of each of the High Courts and Chief Courts. Qualified Mohamedan lawyers eligible for these appointments, can always be found if not in one province then in another. We beg permission further to submit that the presence on the Bench of these Courts of a Judge learned in the Mohamedan law will be a source of considerable strength to the administration of justice.

11. As Municipal and District Boards have to deal with important local interests affecting to a great extent the health, comfort, educational needs, and even the religious concerns of the inhabitants, we shall, without being paradoxical if we solicit for a moment Your Excellency's attention to the position of Mohamedans therein. Before passing to higher concerns, these institutions form as it were the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government; and it is here that the principle of representation is brought home intimately to the intelligence of the people. The position of Mohamedans on these boards is not at present regulated by any guiding principle capable of general application, and practice varies in different localities. The Aligarh Municipality, for example, is divided into six wards, and each ward returns one Hindu and one Mohamedan Commissioner; and the same principle, we understand is adopted in a number of Municipalities in the Punjab and elsewhere; but in a good many places the Mohamedan taxpayers are not adequately represented. We would, therefore, respectfully suggest that local authority should in every case be required to declare the number of Hindus and Mohamedans entitled to seat on Municipal and District Boards, such proportion to be determined in accordance with the numerical strength, social status, local influence, and special requirements of either community. Once their relative proportion is authoritatively determined, we would suggest that either community should be allowed severally to return their own representatives, as is the practice in many towns in the Punjab.

12. We would also suggest that the Senates and Syndicates of Indian Universities might be similarly dealt with, that is to say; there should, so far as possible, be an authoritative declaration of the proportion in which Mohamedans are entitled to be represented in either body.

13. We now proceed to the consideration of the question of our representations in the Legislative Chamber of the country. Beginning with the Provincial Councils we would most respectfully suggest that, as in the case of Municipalities and District Boards, the proportion of Mohamedan representatives entitled to a seat should be determined and declared with due regard to the important considerations which we have ventured to point out in paragraph 3 of this Address; and that the important Mohamedan and owners, lawyers, merchants and representatives of other important interests, the Mohamedan members of District Boards and Municipalities, and the Mohamedan graduates of Universities of a certain standing, say five years, should be formed into electoral Colleges, and be authorised, in accordance with such rules of procedure as Your Excellency's Government may be pleased to prescribe in that behalf, to return the number of members that may be declared to be eligible.

14. With regard to the Imperial Legislative Council, whereon the due representation of Mohamedan interests is a matter of vital importance, we crave leave to suggest (1) that in the case of the Council the proportion of Mohamedan representatives should not be determined on the basis of the numerical strength of the com-

munity, and that in any case the Mohamedan representatives should never be an ineffective minority; (2) that, as far as possible, appointed by election should be given preference over nomination. (3) That, for the purpose of choosing Mohamedan members, Mohamedan landowners, lawyers, merchants, and representatives of other important interests, of a status to be subsequently determined by Your Excellency's Government, Mohamedan members of the provincial councils, and Mohamedan Fellows of Universities, should be invested with electoral powers to be exercised in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed by Your Excellency's Government in that behalf.

15. An impression has lately been gaining ground that one or more Indian members may be appointed on the Executive Council of the Viceroy. In the event of such appointments being made we beg that the claims of Mohamedans in that connection may not be overlooked. More than one Mohamedan, we venture to say, will be found in the country fit to serve with distinction in that august chamber.

16. We beg to approach Your Excellency on a subject which most closely affects the national welfare. We are convinced that our aspirations as a community and our future progress are largely dependent on the foundation of a Mohamedan University, which will be the centre of our religious and intellectual life. We, therefore, most respectfully pray that Your Excellency will take steps to help us in an undertaking in which our community is so deeply interested.

17. In conclusion, we beg to assure Your Excellency that in assisting the Mohamedan supporters of His Majesty at this stage in the development of Indian affairs in any direction indicated in the present address, Your Excellency will be strengthening the basis of their rising loyalty to the Empire and laying the foundation of their political advancement and material prosperity, and Your Excellency's merit will be remembered with gratitude by their posterity for generations to come, and we feel confident that Your Excellency will be generous enough to give due consideration to our prayers. We have the honour to subscribe ourselves your Excellency's obedient and devoted servants.

THE VICEROY'S REPLY

The Viceroy replied as follows: Your dignified and gentlemanly address, before I attempt to reply to it, merits very careful consideration. Your address embodies, to me, as you clearly do Simla, Your presence here to-day is a wonderful assurance. To the document with which you have presented me, and the signatures of nobles, of Members of various Services, of great landowners, of lawyers, of merchants, and of many others of His Majesty's Mohamedan subjects. I wish only to reiterate the representative character of your deputation, as expressing the views and aspirations of the enlightened Muslim community of India. I feel that all you have said emanates from a representative body, basing its opinions on a minute consideration of the existing political conditions of India to its advantage from the small personal or political sympathies and antipathies of a few individuals; and I am grateful to you for the opportunity you are offering me of expressing my appreciation of the past and the followers of Islam, and their determination to share in the political future of our Empire. As your Viceroy, I am proud of the recognition you express of the benefits conferred by British rule on the diverse races of many creeds who go to form the population of this huge continent. You yourselves, the descendants of a conquering and ruling race, have told me to-day of your gratitude for the personal freedom, the liberty of worship, the general peace, and the hopeful future which British administration has secured for India. It is interesting to look back on early British efforts to assist the Mohamedan population to qualify themselves for the public service. In 1783 Warren Hastings founded the Calcutta Madrasah, with the intention of enabling its students to compete on more equal terms with the Hindus for employment under Government. In 1811 my ancestor, Lord Minto, also set on foot a similar Madrasah, and the establishment of Mohamedans at other places throughout India. In later years the efforts of the Mohamedan Association led to the Government resolution of 1885, dealing with the educational position of the Mohamedan community, and their employment in the public service; while Mohamedan educational effort has culminated in the College of Aligarh, that great institution, which the noble and broad-minded devotion of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has dedicated to his co-religionists. It was in July, 1877, that Lord Lytton laid the foundation stone of the Aligarh College, when Sir Syed Ahmed Khan addressed these memorable words to the Viceroy: "The personal honour which you have done me assures me of a great fact, and fills me with feelings of a much higher nature than mere personal gratitude. I am assured that you, who upon this occasion represent British rule, have sympathies with our labours; and to me this assurance is very valuable, and a source of great happiness. At my time of life it is a comfort to me to feel that the undertaking which has been for many years, and is now, the sole object of my life, has

roused on the one hand the energies of my own countrymen, and on the other has won the sympathy of our British fellow-subjects, and the support of our rulers. So that when the few years I may still be spared are over, and when I shall be no longer among you, the College will still prosper and succeed in educating my countrymen to have the same affection for their country, the same feeling of loyalty for British rule, the same appreciation of its blessings, the same sincerity of friendship with our British fellow-subjects, as have been the ruling feeling of my life."

Aligarh has won its laurels; its students have gone forth to fight the battle of life strong in the tenets of their own religion, strong in the precepts of loyalty and patriotism; and now when there is much that is critical in the political future of India, the inspiration of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, and the teachings of Aligarh shine forth brilliantly in the pride of Mohammedan history in the loyalty, common sense and sound reasoning so eloquently expressed in your address. But, gentlemen, you go on to tell me that, sincere as your belief is in the justice and fair dealing of your rulers, "recent events" have stirred up feelings amongst the younger generation of Mohammedans which might pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance. Now, I have no intention of entering into any discussion upon the affairs of Eastern Bengal and Assam, yet I hope that, without offence to any one, I may thank the Mohammedan community of the new province for the moderation and self-restraint they have shown, under conditions as to which there has been inevitably much misunderstanding and that I may at the same time sympathise with all that is sincere in Bengali sentiment; but above all what I would ask you to believe is that the course the Viceroy and the Government of India have pursued in connection with the affairs of the new province, the future of which is now I hope assured, has been dictated solely by a regard for what has appeared best for its present and future populations as a whole, irrespective of race or creed; and that the Mohammedan community of Eastern Bengal and Assam can rely as firmly as ever on British justice and fair play, for the appreciation of its loyalty and the safe-guarding of its interests.

You have addressed me, gentlemen, at a time when the political atmosphere is full of change. We all feel it would be foolish to attempt to deny its existence. Hopes and ambitions new to India are making themselves felt; we cannot ignore them; we should be wrong to wish to do so; but to what is all this unrest due? Not to the discontent of the misgoverned millions. I defy any one honestly to assert that. Not to any uprising of a disaffected people. It is due to that educational growth in which only a very small portion of the population has as yet shared, of which British rule first sowed the seed, and the fruits of which British rule is now doing its best to foster and to direct. There may be many tares in the harvest we are now reaping; the Western grain which we have sown may not be entirely suitable to the requirements of the people of India, but the educational harvest will increase as years go on, and the healthiness of the nourishment it gives will depend on the careful administration and distribution of its products. You need not ask my pardon, gentlemen, for telling me that "representative institutions of the European type are entirely new to the people of India"; or that their introduction here requires the most earnest thought and care. I should be very far from welcoming all the political machinery of the Western world amongst the hereditary instincts and traditions of Eastern races. Western breadth of thought, the teachings of Western civilisation, the freedom of British individuality, can do much for the people of India; but I recognise with you that they must not carry with them an impracticable insistence on the acceptance of political methods.

And now, gentlemen, I come to your own position in respect to the political future. The position of the Mohammedan community, for whom you speak, you will I feel sure recognise that it is impossible for me to follow you through any detailed consideration of the conditions, and the share that community has a right to claim in the administration of public affairs. I can at present only deal with generalities. The points which you have raised are before the committee which, as you know, I have lately appointed to consider the question of representation, and I will take care that your address is submitted to them. But at the same time I hope I may be able to reply to the general tenor of your remarks without in any way forestalling the committee's report. The pith of your address, as I understand it, is a claim that in any system of representation, whether it affects a Municipality a District Board or a Legislative Council, which it is proposed to introduce, or increase an electoral organisation, the Mohammedan community should be represented as a community. You point out that in many cases as now constituted, it cannot be expected to return a Mohammedan candidate, and that if by chance they did so, it could only be at the sacrifice of such a candidate's views to those of a majority opposed to his own community, whom he would in no way represent; and you justly claim that your representation should be commensurate not merely with your numerical strength and in respect to the political importance of your community, and the service it has

rendered to the Empire. I am entirely in accord with you. Please do not misunderstand me; I make no attempt to indicate by what means the representation of communities can be obtained, but I am as firmly convinced as I believe you to be, that any electoral representation in India would be doomed to mischievous failure which aimed at granting a personal enfranchisement regardless of the beliefs and traditions of the communities composing the population of this continent. The great mass of the people of India have no knowledge of representative institutions. I agree with you gentlemen, that the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government are to be found in the Municipal and District Boards, and that it is in that direction that we must look for the gradual political education of the people. In the meantime I can only say to you that the Mohammedan community may rest assured that their political rights and interests as a community will be safeguarded in any administrative reorganisation with which I am concerned, and that you and the people of India may rely upon the British Raj to respect, as it has been its pride to do, the religious beliefs and the national traditions of the myriads composing the population of His Majesty's Indian Empire.

Your Highness and gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for the unique opportunity your deputation has given me of meeting so many distinguished and representative Mohammedans. I deeply appreciate the energy and interest in public affairs which have brought you here from great distances, and I only regret that your visit to Simla is necessarily so short.

The Deputation was composed of His Highness Aga Sir Sultan Mohamed Shah, Aga Khan, G.C.I.E., (Bombay), Shahzadah Bakhtear Shah, C.I.E., Head of the Mysore Family, Calcutta, Hon. Malik Omar Hayat Khan, C.I.E., Lieutenant, 18th Prince of Wales's Own Cavalry, Tiwana, Shahpur, (Punjab); Hon. Khan Bahadur Mian Mohamed Shah Din, Bar-at-law, Lahore, Hon. Moulvi Sharfuddin Bar-at-law, Patna; Khan Bahadur Syed Nawab Ali Chowdhry, Mymensingh, (Eastern Bengal), Nawab Bahadur Syed Amir Husan Khan C.I.E., Calcutta, Nasir Hussain Khan, Khayal, Calcutta; Khan Bahadur Mirza Sujaat Ali Beg, Persian Consul General, Murshidabad, Calcutta, (Bengal), Syed Ali Iman, Bar-at-law Patna, Behar, Nawab Sarraz Hussain Khan, Patna Behar, Khan Bahadur Ahmed Mohud-din Khan, Sirdary of the Carnatic family (Madras), His Highness the Nawab of Gachin, Bombay, Moulvi Rafiuddin Ahmed Bar-at-law Bombay, Ebrahim-ohay Adamji Bar-at-law Bombay, Ebrahimbhov Adamji Peerbhoy, general merchant, (Bombay), Mr. Abdul Rahtim, Bar-at-law, Calcutta.—The Englishman, October 2, 1906.

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AN INDIAN JOURNALIST

Life, Letters and Correspondence

OF

DR. SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE

late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet"

BY

F. H. SKRINE, I.C.S., (now retired.)

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DEDICATION (To Sir W. W. Hunter.)

HIS LIFE STORY.

CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. S. C. MOOKERJEE.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smiths Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties in English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of his biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor "Reis and Rayyet" appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and locked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his usual biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The Pioneer, (Allahabad) Oct. 1895.

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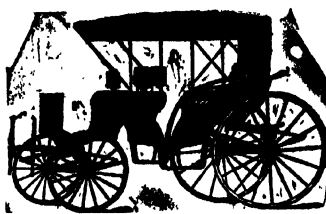
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,241.

SIR A. FRASER AT NAGPUR. QUEEN'S STATUE UNVEILED.

Nagpur, Oct. 6.

SIR ANDREW FRASER'S SPEECH.

The party then returned to the dais and Sir Andrew Fraser addressed the audience :—

Mr. Ismay, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It has been a great pleasure to Lady Fraser and me to halt on our way from Bombay to Calcutta and to be present on this interesting occasion. We have never seen such a concourse of people, or so impressive a scene, in Nagpur; and it will live in our memories long. We received our invitation at home simultaneously from our old friend the Chief Commissioner and from the Secretary of the Committee, the son of my old friend Rao Bahadur Ramkrishan Rao. Mr. Miller and others interested in the matter had asked me previously about this; but I was unable to arrange to be present until now. I regret Mr. Miller's absence; but I cannot but feel pleasure in seeing my old colleague Mr. Ismay in his place; and I congratulate him and his many friends on his appointment which has given so much pleasure in the Province.

As I stand here I see many old friends and familiar faces around me. We have just returned from a visit to our dear homeland. There, despite many kindnesses shown to us we often felt strangers in our own country. It is surely some compensation for this, to feel at home in the country of our adoption. And I thank you that by your kind and generous welcome—the welcome of Mr. and Mrs. Ismay of those who met up at the station and have come to see us since and of those who have smiled their welcome from a distance—you have made us realise that we are at home in Nagpur.

We are met to do honour to the memory of Queen Victoria. Her long and glorious reign, the beauty of her life and character, the manner in which she discharged all the public and private duties of her exalted station, her love for her people, and her interest in all that concerned them. And endeared her to her subjects throughout the Empire. And nowhere was she more revered and beloved than in India. She seemed to be specially connected with this portion of her Empire. It was she who issued the Proclamation by which she assured the Government of this great dependency, a proclamation which the officers of the Crown value no less than the people. It was she who assumed the title of "Empress of India" to show the close relations which she desired to maintain with that part of her Empire. It was she who sent her son the then Prince of Wales, to see the country and its peoples and bring them into closer touch with the throne. All these measures were from her own heart. She loved her Indian subjects; and they returned her love in deep loyalty and devotion.

We remember the shock with which the news of her death was received. As Chief Commissioner, I was deluged with letters and telegrams expressive of the national grief. And travelling about in the interior, I found in the remotest villages and amongst the humblest of her people the same sense of personal loss. We re-

member the universal sorrow and the universal sympathy with her son, His Majesty the King, to whom the love and loyalty of the people of India went out without stint, and by whom they have been secured for ever by his own character and his love for his people.

I need not tell you how His Majesty would sympathise with us in our proceedings of to-day. For he too, following Queen Victoria's example, has sent his son, the Prince of Wales, to visit us. And His Royal Highness has revealed to us his father's heart in the beautiful and gracious words, which he addressed to the princes and peoples of India when he laid the foundation of the Great Memorial Hall in Calcutta.

You have referred in your address to the first meeting we held in March, 1901, at which I had the honour, as Chief Commissioner, to preside, to the decision we adopted to commemorate in our Province Her Majesty's reign to the forms of memorial adopted and to the manner in which effect was given to our decisions. I need not go over all this ground again. I can only acknowledge your generous recognition of my co-operation, and thank you again that I have been invited to unveil this beautiful statue and to open this most appropriate memorial building. I congratulate you on the site you have chosen for the statue where it will be seen by so many of the people amidst beautiful surroundings; and I earnestly trust that the work to be done in this building will tend to the advancement of the interests of the people which lay so near Queen Victoria's heart. The building indicates that co-operation between the people and the officers of Government by which these interests can best be advanced. May I add how pleased I am to see with us to-day the officiating Inspector-General of Agriculture for India? To Mr. Sly's wisdom and tact and sympathy this Province owes much in connection with Agricultural and Industrial development. I remember how I drew him, somewhat reluctant, from the wilds of Chhattisgarh to undertake the duties of an office in which he has rendered signal service to the Government and the people. In view of his services I am inclined to think that in all my time I never did a better piece of work. (Cheers.)

There is a clause in the address of the committee, for which I desire especially to thank you. In speaking of the relations of an old Central Provinces Officer with the people, you use the expression, "the people whom he loves and who love him." I accept in all humility the assurance, large as it is, given in these last three words. I cannot for a moment hope that there is no one in the Province who thinks he owes me a grudge or that I have consciously or unconsciously injured him; but on the other hand I do not regard your assurance as a vain and empty form of speech. For over thirty years I have lived and worked among you; and I know that I have many friends. But, gentlemen, great as is the pleasure which this assurance gives, it is even a greater pleasure to hear you state your conviction that I love the people. If the result of my work among you has been to create that conviction, I regard this as the highest reward that I can receive from men; and I thank you for your generous statement. (Prolonged Cheers.)

I am an old man now—old for India at least—and my work in India is nearly done. I suppose that this is the last time that I shall see the Central Provinces. What memories this visit recalls! As I look on this vast assemblage, with so many familiar faces in these unfamiliar surroundings in a familiar place, how many scenes of my life among you rush in on my memory! There have been mistakes in that life; there have been sorrows; there have been disappointments. But over all there has been happi-

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ness far beyond my deserts and far beyond my power of expression. As I look back I see a callow youth who came to the Province thirty-five years ago, shy and anxious, but withal enthusiastic and eager. I see some of the old workers with whom he came into contact and from whom he learned his work. I recall Sir John Morris, who, as Settlement Commissioner and as Chief Commissioner for seventeen years, learned the Province and its people like a book, who cared for the people, and who started the new Province on its great career of progress with the inestimable advantage of a wise and lenient revenue settlement. I recall Mr. Brittain Jones who succeeded him and who through a year of pain and weakness carried on the administration of the Province to which he had given years of devoted work. He still remembers the people and cares for their interests, and, in his home in Kent, welcomes any news from the scenes of his work in India. I remember Mr. John Neill who was Secretary when I joined and received me with his kindly hospitality: a man whom many of you know as the kindest of friends. I remember Mr. Chisholm that shrewd and kindly officer, who knew all details of work and who gave his kindly help to me from the very first. I recall a host of others who were my early guides. Were they giants in those days? Or, was it only that we were small and they looked big to us? I do not care to decide. But these were men who knew the people and lived among them, the men whose spirit gave the Province its peculiar traditions—traditions which have attracted the attention of many a distinguished visitor and to which special reference is made in Sir Frederic Lely's recent book on the Government of India.

I recall also some of the old Indian officers who secured my respect and taught me much of my work. There has Khan Bahadur Aulad Hussein, that straight true man whom everybody trusted, who knew little English, but knew two things far more worth the knowing: he knew the people and he knew his duty to them. I recall the kindly and genial Rambhaji Rao Mahadik and the gentle Babu Rao Patwardhan, from whom I received much fatherly advice and much instruction about the feelings and customs of the people. I recall the plucky and chivalrous Gopinath Guru who stood by his English Chief through all the troubles of the Kalahandi rising, and whose death from a miserably accident gave me a grievous shock. These and a crowd of others rise before my memory to-day.

I cannot here in Nagpur forget two kindly figures welcomed in all societies, but engaged especially in work among the Indians, whose loving hands were stretched out to all who needed help and especially to orphan boys and girls: the devoted Mr. and Mrs. Cooper who after their long work among us, passed to a pathetically brief and sad retirement in the homeland. They were dear friends of mine and taught me to sympathise with the feelings and also to value the friendships of our Indian fellow-subjects.

As I look round this great audience I see not a few who have been contemporaries of my own and fellow workers for many years. I met Rai Bahadur Bepin Krishna Bose nearly thirty years ago in a debating Society; and from that time we have been fast friends. You know that there is perhaps no man who has done more for the Province, and especially this part of it, than he. It is impossible to estimate the debt that we owe him. A few years later, I met Mr. Gangadhar Madhawa Chitnavis, then a lad at College, whose worthy father had honoured me with his friendship. He passed from earth and left his son to follow his example; and well he has earned the approval of all good men. I see another who as a young man seemed to be a "rough diamond;" but the value of the diamond became more real and its roughness seemed to pass away, as he developed into one of our most valued non-official public servants. These are with me here to-day and are of those whose friendship will be among my most pleasant memories while memory remains.

With these friends of my more youthful days there arise many scenes of my life among you. I could, if I had time, dwell on these. I recall with special pleasure scenes of camp life where we get nearest to the people and do our best work among them, understanding their ways and valuing their co-operation. These scenes make a happy experience. Yet they were crowned by that which was in some respects the saddest experience of my life. The struggle with famine in my last years among you, when I was Chief Commissioner, was not my battle but yours. We stood together and toiled together. We were bound to each other by stronger bonds of confidence and sympathy than ever before.

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I shall never forget how officials and non-officials strove together until the victory was won; and you will never forget the strong true man that was always in the hardest of the work, our untiring and ungrudging friend, Mr. Carddock, then my Secretary and now your Commissioner of the Division.

Gentlemen, memories of friends like these and work and life like this are a precious possession; and to make my memories, if possible, more precious still you send me away from you with these words, "He loves the people." They are generous and kindly words; and I thank you. I shall never forget either them or you. (Loud and continued applause).

After some formal ceremonies and speeches the party dispersed.

RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUHAMMADAN HALL AT Dacca.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam in the Education Department, No. 10641B., dated the 12th October 1906.

Read—

A letter, dated the 3rd August 1906, from the President, Provincial Muhammadan Association, Eastern Bengal and Assam, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam (annexure).

RESOLUTION.

The following Resolution which was drafted by Sir Bampfylde Fuller has the full approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, and is issued for general information:—

"The Provincial Muhammadan Association has approached the Lieutenant-Governor with a scheme which, having for its object the improvement of education, must commend itself to sympathetic consideration. In its essentials, the proposition is to establish a Muhammadan Hall (or hostel) as an adjunct to the new Dacca College, where Muhammadan undergraduates, entered at the College, would not only have the advantage of the College lectures, but would be brought under religious, moral and social influences. The Hall would be an aid, not a State, institution, and would be managed by a special Council or Committee. Following as it would, the lines that have been so successful at Aligarh, it would be under an English Provost, who might also conveniently be a Professor on the staff of the College, and would draw part of his remuneration in the latter capacity. He would be assisted by some house masters, whose duties it would be to superintend the boarding house, to stimulate games and athletics, and to assist the students in preparing for lectures. It seems probable that the last mentioned of these functions is of great importance, and that the reason why so many students fail to gain degrees is the lack of personal attention. There would also be a religious instructor.

"2. These remarks are, however, only intended generally to indicate the arrangements which the Association is understood to favour, and it is desirable that the scheme should be considered in detail by a Committee of gentlemen who would bring to bear upon the proposal educational experience and special knowledge of the wants of the Muhammadan community. The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly decided to appoint a small organizing Committee consisting of the following members:—

H. LeMesurier, Esq., C.I.E., Commissioner of Dacca.

H. Sharp, Esq., Director of Public Instruction.

C. Browning, Esq., Principal, Dacca College.

The Honourable Nawab Khajah Salimullah Bahadur, C.S.I., Nawab of Dacca.

Khan Bahadur Nawab Ali Choudhuri.

Abdul Majid, Esq.

Khan Bahadur Serajul Islam.

"In referring to these gentlemen the consideration of the scheme, the following points are indicated as those principally needing their attention:

"(i) The number of students for whom provision should be made at the outset and the number which the Hall may be expected eventually to include.

"(ii) The rates at which fees should be levied, it being borne in mind that the object of the institution is to turn out gentlemen, but that in view of the general conditions of the Muhammadans of Eastern Bengal the rates of fees should probably be substantially lower than those in force at Aligarh.

"(iii) The staff which would be needed and its cost.

"(iv) The accommodation which would be needed for boarding houses and class rooms for preparation, and the style which should be followed in building.

"(v) The capital outlay which would be incurred upon build-

ings and site, including the provision of a playground, the extent to which this outlay would be met by subscriptions, and the amount which would be contributed by Government.

"(vi) The total annual recurring outlay in maintaining the Hall, the extent to which this would be provided by interest on endowments, and the amount of the grant-in-aid which it would be necessary to contribute from Provincial revenues.

"3. The Lieutenant-Governor is prepared to offer as a site for the Hall a plot of Government khas land which lies in the vicinity of the new College."

Ordered that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette.

Ordered, also, that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division, the Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam, the President, Provincial Muhammadan Association, Eastern Bengal and Assam, and the other members of the organizing Committee.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor,

P. C. LYON,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

ANNEXURE.

Dated Dacca, the 31st August 1906.

From—The Hon'ble Nawab Khajah Salimullah Bahadur, C. S. I., President, Provincial Muhammadan Association,

Eastern Bengal and Assam, Dacca,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

On behalf of the Provincial Muhammadan Association I have the honour to address the following representation on the subject of a Hall or Hostel for Muhammadan students who study in Dacca, with the request that it may be laid before His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. The Association may be permitted to say that all right-thinking people ought to express their gratification and the Muhammadan community owe a debt of deep gratitude to Sir Bampfylde Fuller, for the attention which he, in the midst of difficulties and his engrossing work, has devoted to measures which will better the condition of those who have lagged behind in the struggle for existence and the race of life. During His Honour's first visit to Dacca in November last as the Lieutenant-Governor of the new Province, the deputation of the Muhammadan gentlemen who came from the several districts and waited upon His Honour felt itself rewarded to learn that His Honour took very keen interest in education, and was desirous of extending facilities for the spread of education among the members of our community, which constitute the bulk of the population of this Province, and yet has, unfortunately, been one in which the progress in education has not been as great as it ought to be. We are sensible of the interest evinced by Government in the furtherance of education among the Muhammadans and the amelioration of their present backward condition, and are confident that with the formation of this province and with His Honour at its head, the community will be led on to occupy its natural place in the country, which it ought to do, but has hitherto failed, to our regret. We realise that one of the needs of the Muhammadan community is really efficient education on the lines of that imparted at the Aligarh College, with surroundings and influences which are calculated to evolve men of character as well as of knowledge. The present time is especially opportune for initiating measures to supply this want since a group of fine edifices is being constructed by Government for the College at Dacca, which, as being the college of the capital of the Province, is most likely receiving the attention of the authorities.

3. The visit paid by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and the Princess of Wales on the occasion of their tour in the Indian Empire to the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh is gratefully remembered with pride by the Muhammadan community throughout the empire and will always remain memorable in the pages of history, as a high honour done to the Muhammadan community, and as a guarantee that the education afforded in that college has earned the approval of Government. From the reports which have reached us, it appears that their Royal Highnesses were very pleased with what they saw in the college at Aligarh.

4. During the month of April last, the Association organised a Muhammadan Educational Conference at Dacca, and it is a matter of pleasure and pride to the Association that the Conference was largely attended, and the various districts of the Province were represented there by men of light and leading. One of the most

important questions which engaged the attention of the Conference was that of providing educational facilities for Muhammadan students who have come and would come in large numbers to Dacca, for the prosecution of studies in the college at the capital, after passing the Entrance Examination of the University. And the following resolution was unanimously adopted with acclamation:—

"That in the opinion of the Conference, the time has arrived for immediate action with a view to provide at Dacca a Hall or Hostel, with playgrounds attached thereto, for the Muhammadan youths studying in the college, under the direct supervision of a resident European Principal or Provost, aided by resident assistants, a competent Maulvi who will attend to the religious side of their training, and as many of the tutors as can be entertained for the purpose of helping the students in their studies."

The Association is confident that such a scheme will afford facilities for equipping the Muhammadan students with such training as will enable them to effectually discharge their duty in all walks of life, develop in them a healthy esprit-de-corps and make them good and loyal citizens, and gentlemen in every sense of the term.

5. His Honour is aware that the Muhammadans of the Province are generally poor. In pursuance of the resolutions passed at the Conference, strenuous endeavour has been made to raise subscriptions for the scheme; and Rs. 88,429 and properties yielding an annual income of Rs. 6,810 have been promised, efforts being continued to raise more. The generous policy followed by Government has been to supplement private contributions with substantial State aid. The Muhammadan community ventures to express the hope that in this Province, where it constitutes the bulk of its population and should show a better record of progress than what it has hitherto done, the present scheme for its advancement will receive special support and substantial assistance from Government.

6. The Association therefore submits this appeal with the prayer that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor may be graciously pleased to take into consideration the character and extent of the assistance which will be rendered by Government.

The Association would deem it a matter of pride if, as a humble token of their very high appreciation of his strong sense of justice and great kindness, his high qualities of head and heart, his keen interest in education and his firm resolve to promote the interests of the people committed to his care, His Honour would permit the Hall to be associated with his distinguished name.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, October 20, 1906.

THE PRESIDENTSHIP OF THE CONGRESS.

Who is to be the President of the coming Indian National Congress? That is the question. And it has become a party question too. A perfect storm has been raised in the Congress circle in connection therewith. In bygone years, the selection was smoothly done as a tame affair, and the outside world had very little to know. The extremists say in years goneby they had an immense oratorical display only, as the be-all and end-all of Congress programme. The age of mendicancy has given place to self-help. This year they mean work and no talk merely for the sake of empty effect. And hence the rub. But internecine quarrel and a swaggering spirit are not preliminaries to work—solid work. Coolness, unity, and purity of purpose make all work possible, and advance the national cause. Internal discord moves backward and makes a complete shipwreck when carried too far and too long. As an organism goes to dissolution and ruin when its several organs cease to work in harmony, so a nation loses all its solidarity when individuals act independently of each other upon their own initiative and do not regard themselves as part and parcel of the whole, merging themselves in the service of society in which they live and move and have their being. Look at the downfall of the Hindu Raj, o

Musalman supremacy. History unfurls such danger signals. Look wherever you please, everywhere you will find a warning lesson.

Two names are mentioned in connection with the Presidentship of the National Congress. Both are sincere, stout-hearted, ready and self-sacrificing workers. The one is regarded as cool and collected; the other is a little bit of an enthusiast, and as such somewhat risky to be so nominated. But risky or no risky, he cannot be held down long. Some-day or other, he shall have to be hailed as president of the National Congress. His growing name and fame makes of him an idol of the rising generation. Another name, comparatively less catching, is mentioned in that connection. But we refrain from making any remark of ours. A correspondent of the "Empire" seems to write in disgust at the uncouth spirit of split in the camp of the Indian National Congress regarding its presidentship. The "Empire" makes of him a scape-goat and places into his mouth the imprecation "A plague on both your houses!" What our contemporary says, he finds it opportune to saddle upon his correspondent. "He puts forward the name of Babu Narendra Nath Sen, who, as he very truly remarks, has the good fortune of commanding the respect of all communities in India. But our correspondent goes on to mention one defect in Babu Narendra Nath Sen, which will, we fear, outweigh all his good points. He has not, as he puts it, 'the gift of the gab.'—If that is so, although it is by no means our own impression, we fear there can be nothing for it but to request Babu Narendra Nath to stand down."

So he intended to make a cat's paw of his correspondent and to kill two birds with one stone.

Unfortunately for us and for the country, our natural and national leaders are, as a rule, overlooked. Eloquence is reckoned as the sole attribute of a leader. Now-a-days, it minimises all other virtues put together. Men in the fervour of enthusiasm forget all other virtues but public speaking. Instead of being the means, it is regarded as the end. Patriotism, as it were, is measured by the length of the speech one delivers, and in English too, though the vernaculars of the land are not of late entirely thrown overboard. By an irony of fate, all extempore speakers are more or less patriots, the doers of noble deeds are mercilessly neglected and kept in the back-ground. The baneful effect of such a procedure cannot, we are afraid, be over-estimated. The silent workers are one by one elbowed out and the acclaiming public extol the demagogues to the skies. We should be the last men in the world to cast any reflection on the power of speech, but what we contend against is—placing the cart before the horse—the means taking the place of the end. Speeches have, of late, become the beginning, the middle and the end of all. Speech is a necessary equipment but not all. The glamour of making an extempore address blinds the eye and the tart and pert theatricals arouse in the young and inexperienced persons, whose name is legion, a spirit of emulation for sound, fury, and froth for mere histrionic effect. If one thing is more fitted to be boycotted than another, it is the rehearsal of routine speeches of the Indian National Congress. When it is not possible to make speech "absolutely free" from the British

linguistic control, how then British goods are to be eschewed altogether at this incipient stage of the Swadeshi enterprise? Tall talk is as much harmful as unbridled passion. Yarn goods, salt, sugar may possibly be abjured, and in the long run, with costs and extreme difficulty, but to carry on a crusade at once against all foreign goods, if true so far, means war to the knife against the requirements of decency and civilisation. Take one or two in hand, and if you succeed in finishing off the same, take another. But at once to cast off all foreign goods, is an absurdity in the very face of it. Some might say, "Hit high and you will gain the middle." We say this is all very good in absolute discussion, but its weight will more and more disappear when pitted against concrete facts. Let not the fervid and go-a-head extremists overlook the facts of every-day life, the extreme poverty of the people, and seek to emulate other nations more fortunately placed. The factors of civilisation are religion, science, political condition, and material resources. The wealth of a nation is no mean adjunct for its growth and prosperity. Let us not cry:

Simple Simon met a pieman

Going to the fair;

Said Simple Simon to the pieman,

"Let me taste your ware,"

Said the pieman to Simple Simon,

"Let me see your penny;"

Said Simple Simon to the pieman,

"Why, I haven't any!"

Everywhere, the Moderates' view is preferred to that of the Extremists who would not stick to the golden mean in all matters alike. A friction has arisen between the Extremists and Moderates in the Congress, which is regrettable all the more at this juncture. The friction must be somehow or other quenched and the difference made up at once. No time should be lost to repair the breach. It arose out of certain individual misunderstanding. Babu Surendra Nath who represents the Moderates is for again memorialising the Secretary of State to veto or modify the partition; but the other, who stands in the shoes of Mr. Khaparde and represents the Bengal Extremists, sets his face against what is called the mendicant policy.

So the conflict between two men, one of whom is complimented by the Anglo-Indians as the "irrepressible Bengalee agitator" and the other generally looked upon as the jumping orator or an "upstart,"—is not very keen. The latter is an out and out Red Radical among the Congressmen. He goes the length of saying even to boycott Government service, if necessary. This is easier said than done. To boycott Government service means boycotting all administrative qualifications, power and emolument. To give up all honorary appointments may, to some extent, be possible, even if it be desirable. Here it will be all very well to eschew the mendicant policy altogether. But as regards stipendary higher posts, judicial or executive, that have something to do with the administration of the country, it would be idle to speak of giving them up. Such a view of the Extremists seems an impossible feat, at any rate, in the very face of it. It may read very well in absolute discussion, but in concrete cases it would be impossible even to speculate on such pure absolutism. We are not a free people, nor is our power unlimited. We are a nation of born mendicants, and such a view is Utopian. Then

we are greatly indebted to British justice and generosity. True, Rome was not built in a day, they say, but this is no line laid down for the building of Rome. Work slowly, silently and moderately for our salvation. Mere tall talk and fuss will for nothing create ill-feeling and bad blood amongst the rulers and the ruled or the people themselves. To keep things within bounds of sobriety, legitimacy and decent probability, is all that a patriot should look after, and should never allow himself to be carried away by the fervour of the moment. What if another memorial is got up and submitted to the Secretary of State? What if it meets with no better treatment than its predecessor? Should another disappointment take out our determination to be self-dependent? Be prone to do more and to speak as little as possible. Some may buy cheap notoriety by going the length of saying all that can possibly be said in a certain eventuality. You may talk the whole time so long and do nothing at all, you can never be able to better your circumstances.

"Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been?"

"I've been to London to look at the Queen."

"Pussy cat, pussy cat, what did you there?"

"I frightened a little mouse under the chair!"

Mere empty harangue, sound and fury would not carry the day, but sturdy, honest deed opportunely, calmly and tactfully done would help a good deal in the regeneration of the nation. One may be honest, one may be firm, one may be up to the mark, but one should not allow oneself to be carried away too far. We quote the following to warn our youngmen against the empty boast of the courage of conviction. Is it the language of a thoughtful and practical man?

"The time has come when, in the interest of truth and the civic advancement and freedom of the people, our British friends should be distinctly told that, while we are thankful to them for all the kind things they have said all these years for us and the ready sacrifices they have made to make our lot easy and their yoke light, we cannot any longer suffer to be guided by them in our attempts for political progress and emancipation. Their view point is not ours. They desire to make the Government in India popular without ceasing in any sense to be essentially British; we desire to make it autonomous, absolutely free of the British control."

Such expressions do not give to one's friends and apologists anything to congratulate upon, whilst they give enough to enemies for cavil. This must be the fitting language of a disappointed people more than free. It reads well and is calculated to carry away the hearts of readers and catch raw and inexperienced fervid minds. A thoughtful and practical man would pause a while and think twice before uttering such a monstrous absurdity. Be that as it may. The cable sent to Mr. Naoroji by Babu Bhupendra for his acceptance of the presidency of the Congress, was itself premature. But Babu Surendra was duped to read it out before the Bhagalpur meeting. The indecent haste which marked the procedure gave a chance to their adversaries of calling it a countermove. Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee was unaware of the audacious dodge played upon him. He artlessly read out to his audience the cable of Mr. Naoroji. This is just like repeating

"How doth the little busy bee,"—

"Delight to bark and bite?"

"To gather honey all the day,

And eat it all the night."

He knew not, perhaps, what he was about and was taken in by his party. The effect was tremendous. It almost brought a division in the Congress Camp.

THE PARTITION DAY.

THE Partition Day was observed in Calcutta by the Hindus, Mahomedans and Native Christians. If the practice obtains in future years, why should not the Local Government declare the 16th of October a general, if not a commercial, holiday? The Partition of Bengal has been an impetus to both Hindu and Mahomedan activity. Both the communities are unusually stirred. If the two at first seemed to combine against the Partition, it now seems to divide them. The 16th of October last, the first anniversary day of inauguration of the new Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, was observed by both the communities—the Hindus as a day of death, of fast and suffering; the Mahomedans as a day of birth, of joy and merriment. The new evening daily of Calcutta characterized the day as "A Cheerful Day of Mourning." There were both joy and sorrow. The Hindu celebration consisted of bathing in the sacred river, fasting, bare feet, the binding of the rakhi—the tie of brotherhood—prayer and singing of national songs. They gathered at Badon Square, College Square and the proposed Federation Hall ground. The last, the grandest Hindu meetings of the day, was presided over by a Mahomedan, Moulvi Mahomed Yusof Khan Bahadur, in the full dress of honour presented to him by Government. He said, among other things,

All I know and do feel is that the two communities, Mahomedan and Hindu make up the Bengali nation, that they are inseparable, because they belong to the same soil and must ever so remain. They must live together in weal or woe, and walk hand in hand in this land of their birth.

The Moulvi struck the true chord when he said: "We have to develop in our young men, a stronger manhood, and a loftier and healthier ambition and tone of life. Not self or even the family, but the country first and the country last—such should be the divine Diksha for every young man who should come under the dispensations of the new education that we have inaugurated and which we mean, under divine guidance, to lead to a glorious consummation."

The Mahomedan celebration in Marcus Square was throughout a merry-go-round. There were addresses, mostly religious, from various platforms, with distribution of sweets and sherbet.

Besides the anti-Moslem demonstration at Calcutta and Dacca, there was another opposition meeting in Calcutta of the Indian Christians of Eastern Bengal, belonging to the Portuguese (Roman Catholic) Mission under the Bishopric of Mylapore. The Rev. Father Mascarenhas, Vicar of the Church, presided. He said:

Obedience was one of the cardinal doctrines of the Catholic Church. Their unmistakable duty was to be obedient and loyal to Government, which had conferred numerous benefits upon the people. They could not, as Christians, join a movement that was anti-Christian in its character, being directed against the Christian Government. Hindus had no sympathy with them, nor did they need the

sympathy of the Hindus. Indian Christians had nothing in common with Hindus. Some years ago, when Government passed a law in favour of Indian Christian succession, Hindus opposed it. The Rev. Father, continuing, said that under Hindu domination, the condition of Christians would be insufferable. Indian Christians should carefully avoid seditious and harmful movements. They should give Caesar his due. It was sinful to disobey lawful authority, and he felt sure they would never have anything to do with political agitators.

They then resolved

that they regard the 'partition' as a measure conducive to the welfare of the Christian population of Eastern Bengal,—and that they affirm most humbly their unswerving loyalty and devotion to the benign British Government.

The second Resolution ran :

That they have no sympathy with, nor interest in the 'boycott' and other movements of the Hindu political agitators, and that they are resolved to keep aloof, as they have always done, from all movements which are antagonistic either to their European fellow-subjects or to the British Government.

The Christians return the compliment in kind paid them by the Hindus and identify themselves with "their European fellow-subjects," as Europeans or British-born subjects, we believe.

The 'Partition' is being treated in Calcutta in the same way as was the Elective System—the gift of Sir Richard Temple to this city. The new Indian League and the old British Indian Association held public meetings on the same day and the same hour, the League, in the Town Hall, and the Association in its own Rooms, the League to uphold, and the Association to oppose, the franchise.

THE first anniversary day of the Partition of Bengal fell this year on the Bengali original date of the formation of the new Province—the 30th of Aswin. If the day is to be observed by Hindus, Mahomedans and Native Christians, the English date must be accepted by the Hindus as it has been by the Mahomedans. The people this time are divided in a marked way. The Mahomedans who are for partition have this year celebrated the day in a gala way in Calcutta, Dacca and other places. The Mahomedans have begun to work in union. The all India Mahomedan deputation to the Viceroy on the 1st instant proves the union and strength of the Mahomedans in a cause other than religious. There is evidently an awakening among the Mahomedans. If the Hindus believe the Partition an evil, the Mahomedans find in it immediate good, though in a small way. Partition or no Partition, both the communities are destined to advance under the British rule. The Hindus are opposing the Partition ever since the proposal was announced. A year has passed and there does not seem to be any diminution in the energy of the protest. The anti-partitionists refuse to accept partition as a settled fact. This is no wisdom. The opposition only prolongs the modification, if there is to be any. The people's proclamation says that every step will be taken to counteract the evil effects of the partition. There can be no possible objection to this course, from any quarter. Government too, we may be sure, will consider any reasonable suggestions on that behalf. But the evil to be remedied must be clearly demonstrated. Though the Federation Hall has not yet been raised, people of different creeds met together on the ground in the evening in larger number than

last year, to protest against Mr. Morley's settled fact. The President's speech, though long, was moderate throughout. If anything can count with the authorities, it is the absence of any extreme or extravagant views. Neither the president nor the other speakers advocated that course. A year's untiring effort has not been wasted. There is a growing sense of proportion and moderation in the demands. There is more resort to civil than to criminal Courts.

The election of non-official members to the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam is to be watched with great interest. If the people do not accept the Partition of Bengal, they cannot run for seats in its provincial council. Such seems to be the feeling. If that be the policy to be adopted in East Bengal, why should there be a different policy in West Bengal? Moreover, are the Council seats, and the honorary offices under the Government the only things to be abjured? If we are ready to go to such lengths, why not give up all service under Government? Such a policy is neither sound nor practical. The people still require enough of education. And these seats in Council Chambers, on District and Municipal Boards are our training ground. We may have a number of educational institutions of sorts of our own, but then the millennium is far off. When such a day actually arrives, then will begin the tug of war, Greek meeting Greek.

We have protested against the partition of Bengal. The swadeshi vow born of this agitation has been an eye-opener to our countrymen. Half a century of English education has not been able to do what in an unexpected way a mere administrative adjustment has done. Besides this industrial awakening, the bonds of union among the people are tighter than ever. New forms and ceremonies to cement the bond tighter have been introduced. It is said that a mere form hastily brought in cannot be lasting or effective in moulding the destinies of men like well thought out schemes of mature brains. But sometimes it is the unexpected that happens. The present movement born of a hasty and insolent act of Government may receive its vitality from that cause.

It is too early to speak of the effect of the Rakhi. The gift of the rakhi cannot be objected to by either Mahomedans or Christians. Those who value Christian and British rule cannot refuse it. That tie, in a manner, symbolises the policy of British rule in India—the principles of toleration, equality and fraternity.

A MEDICAL man writes in the *Times of India* :

"Poona is in the grip of death at present. Funeral processions seem to be the order of the day and the authorities fail to enforce the necessity of the burial of the dead on sanitary lines.

Cowdung cakes, with which the poor usually burn their dead, have risen in price : thirty rupees a thousand is too much indeed for the poor mortals to spend on their departed, maybe their bread-winners. They therefore resort to the very cheap method of burial. They bury two or three perhaps in a grave that is just one or two feet deep. This is very alarming and very insanitary indeed for those surviving."

Graves, whether 3 or 6 feet deep, are always a danger to the living. And what is the objection to burying more than one in the same grave at the same time?

THE Town Hall has, for some years, been condemned. Yet, large sums have been spent on its repairs. The question of a new Town Hall is being discussed. Its site is exercising many brains. Government has been asked to take over the Hall and allow the Calcutta Corporation to erect a new one in the Curzon Gardens. Objections have been made, as were made to the Victoria Memorial which Lord Curzon wanted to raise on the Maidan. It does not appear, that those who are for or against the site, are aware that, like the Eden Gardens, the Curzon Gardens are beyond the reach of the Calcutta Municipality. The municipal area, as defined in the municipal Act, excludes Fort William, the Esplanade and a part of Hastings. It is doubtful whether any portion of these excluded areas can be included in municipal Calcutta by mere order of the Local or the Supreme Government without fresh legislation. We believe, the power given, in the Act, to the Local Government "at the request of the Corporation, to include within Calcutta any local area (other than Howrah) in the vicinity of the same" does not extend to the parts excluded from it by the Act. The Local Government, if so advised, may extend Calcutta, as enabled by the Act, over the waters, to Howrah, but it must not think of casting its eyes, for the purpose, on the maidan. If we are right, the controversy about the Curzon Gardens as the site of the new Town Hall must cease, unless the discussion be for cutting off a portion of the maidan for extension of the Calcutta Municipal area or handing over the Curzon Gardens to the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation. In his own dominion, he has been deprived of a Tank. He may well be anxious for a Fountain beyond.

THREE are other suggestions for the site of the new Town Hall. Among them, made by the "Asian," is the Wellington Square. That journal, though printed and published at Calcutta, is, as the name imports, a journal not only for Calcutta, for Bengal, old and new, not only for all India, like the "Times of India Illustrated Weekly"—"The Cheapest, Brightest, and Best Illustrated Paper in India," but also, double priced, for the whole of Asia. In that wide sweep, it gives up the Maidan, narrowing itself down to Wellington Square. We must confess that its suggestion is not so bad as the one once made by the municipality to build on the water reservoir a fish market. So long as the reservoirs are there, any structure in the Square is out of the question. Even now, no body is allowed into the Square, for fear of possible contamination by percolation of the underground drinking water. Only the Faithful are permitted, within an enclosed space, to read their prayers.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce was held recently, the Hon. Mr. A. A. Apcar, C.S.I., presiding, to discuss with the Hon. Mr. R. W. Carlyle, C.I.E., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, and Mr. Percy Bramley, District Superintendent of Police (Benares) on special duty, the proposals now being made in connection with the introduction of a scheme for the organisation of a river police force and for the registration of trade boats. The feeling of the meeting generally was in favour of the adoption of the proposals, which would however possibly have to be introduced gradually, as a somewhat large expenditure would be involved, which it was hoped would be borne by the Government of India.

"Old Anglo-Indians shake their heads gloomily over the change of manners, and look back fondly to the good times when the native left the pavement to the white people, and halted his beasts when they wanted to cross the road. He does that still in some of the up-country districts, but not in the Presidency towns. He knows too much about the Sahibs to regard them with any special awe. For the white man in Bombay is not always a ruler and an English gentleman. He may be a tailor's cutter at the Stores, or an assistant at one of the big outfitting shops, or a German Commercial Traveller, or an Italian Hotel-manager, or the chauffeur who drives some wealthy Parsi's Motor car. It is a very miscellaneous oligarchy, and the native is not much impressed by it, and treats its members with impartial indifference, relying on the

protection of the law. If the Briton with a remnant of the old ideas about Oriental subordination displays his resentment in a forcible fashion, there is at hand a magistrate, probably a native himself, to right the aggrieved Asiatic's wrongs, with no prejudice in favour of the governing race."

Not so in Bengal. This Low Vision of India is not for the Lower Provinces, which are too distant from that happiness of the first city in India.

A Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal as Governor of Jamaica was taken to a Police Court by a negro carpenter whom he had assaulted for his stupidity. The story is related thus:

"Sir William Grey, who rose to be Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in the late 'sixties,' became, after his retirement, Governor of Jamaica. In that Lilliput he had an adventure which must have made him sigh for the absolutism of 'Belvedere.' Some days after his arrival at Kingston His Excellency was superintending the hanging up of some pictures at Government House, and got provoked at the stupidity of a negro carpenter—so much so that he gave him a light cut with a switch. The sable craftsman at once descended the ladder and gathered up his tools. Looking the magnate in the face, he calmly exclaimed: 'You tink you's a mighty big buckra, but I run you in!' And sure enough the following day there came a summons for the Governor's attendance at the Police Court on a charge of assault, and H. E. was glad to compromise the matter through an A-D-C., on payment of £10."

No native of India could muster that courage. A Lieutenant Governor of Bengal was indeed sued in the late Supreme Court of Calcutta. But it was by a European indigo-planter and the suit was decreed with nominal damages of Re. 1 and costs. Now the Governors are above the Indian Law Courts, and, therefore, perhaps, more free to speak out their minds.

WE read:

"The New Municipal Market yesterday morning was the scene of a little surprise and disappointment to the public, who were unable to obtain their usual fish supply; most of the stalls for the sale of fish being conspicuous for their emptiness. In response to the enquiries of several European ladies and gentlemen, the stall-keepers explained that they had been boycotted by Indian political agitators, who it is stated had been instrumental in stopping the sale of fish at the sources of supply, because they, the stall-keepers, had not closed their stalls on the Partition Day Anniversary. They were unable to say how long the boycott would be continued. Mr. Baldwin, Acting Superintendent of the Market, on being interviewed by a Press representative stated that a meeting was held on the 14th instant between the zemindar, who owns Chingrihatta ghat, and the fishermen who bring boat loads of fish daily and sell the same at Chingrihatta ghat. It was decided to stop the sale of fish on the 16th instant, on account of Partition Day Anniversary. On hearing this Mr. Baldwin warned the market stall-keepers against any attempt to close business on that day. The stall-keepers appear to have altogether unheeded the wishes of the agitators, and sold fish as usual on the 16th, least expecting what would follow. Mr. Baldwin having received information that it was decided to boycott all further supply of fish, went yesterday morning to Chingrihatta ghat, and found that the fishermen had actually refused to sell fish to the market stall-keepers. The Naib of Rai Jotendro Mohun (Yatindra Nath) Chowdhury, the zemindar, it is said, on hearing of the approach of Mr. Baldwin left the place, but notwithstanding this did not improve matters as the market stall-keepers had to come away without obtaining their usual fish supply. A small supply of fish, however, was obtained from Raja Ghat, which is Municipal property and which is only a five minutes' walk from Chingrihatta ghat, but the supply was altogether inadequate to meet the usual demand made by the public, who were loud in their complaint yesterday at the disappointment they had unexpectedly met with. Mr. Baldwin also proceeded yesterday to the Sealdah Railway station where large quantities of fish are daily brought down by train from Goalundo, but here even it was found that the political agitators had been at work as the sale of the fish to the New Market men, was refused. The usual supply of sea

fish obtained through the medium of Mr. Ashworth, was brought to the market and was rapidly disposed of to purchasers. About 9 a.m. several basket loads of bectkie and large prawns were brought to the market, but these, it would appear were intended for supply to some of the local hotels on contract. There was also a fair supply of oysters also intended for hotel use. Mr. Baldwin, as we understand, making strenuous efforts to avoid a similar failure of the fish supply and a marked improvement is expected in this direction. It is believed that this boycott will lead to the introduction of a more satisfactory system of daily fish supply in the market. There is every likelihood that the Municipal Raja Ghat will in the near future be utilised as the main source of the fish supply. The ghat it is said, will admit of considerable improvement with a good road which would enable carts to be used for the conveyance of fish to the Municipal Market."—*The Englishman*, Oct. 19.

The zemindar of Chingubhatta Ghat or his agent is found fault with for insufficient supply of fish to what is popularly known as the Hogg Market. But what did not Sir Stuart Hogg, the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation and Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, do to establish his market? In his double capacity and with the whole weight of Government, he boycotted the Dhumtolla Market then owned by the late Babu Hiradul Sadi and his brothers. He would not allow fishermen to buy fish at Chingubhatta Ghat for the Dhumtolla Market, would not allow animals to be slaughtered at numerous slaughter houses for the said market. He erected temporary meat stalls of his own in front of the Seal's market. He had recourse to other means to ruin that market or compel the proprietors to yield to his terms or to sell the property at his dictations. But Babu Hiradul was not the man to submit so easily. He fought Sir Stuart Hogg bravely on every point and then filed a suit in the High Court for heavy damages. Sir Stuart had to yield and purchase peace by purchasing the existing market at the price demanded, of seven lakhs of rupees. The old market was a heavy drag on the municipality for a long time. When the new market was formally opened by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Richard Temple condescended to shake hands with the chief fisherman of the market. The boycott, denounced, of the day, is nothing compared to the troubles and terrors caused then by the authority or with the connivance of Government.

UNDER the heading "A Barbarous Custom," the *Indian Mirror* (Oct. 6) has the following:

"We are glad to learn that His Excellency the Amatya of Baroda has been moved, through feelings of humanity and clemency, to put a practical stop to the cruel and almost barbarous custom of branding with a red hot iron seal, an operation, which the Sadhu pilgrims, who visit Dwarka, submit themselves to, of their own free will, as a means of securing salvation. Dwarka lies in Baroda territory, and according to the prevailing belief of the Sadhu salvation hunters, is still blessed with the living presence of Shirdrishna. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims assemble there every year, and as a mark of their piety get themselves branded with a red hot iron seal representing disc, shell, stone missile and lotus as the emblem of the presiding deity. Up to now State authorities used to levy a small tax of 5 pice per head but the check on the cruel practice was practically little. It was then raised to treble this amount, but also without avail. The Amatya has now resorted to the more rigorous measure of levying Rs. 5 per head for the brand mark. This, in our opinion, will check the practice by allowing it to obtain only within a limited circle of well-to-do Sadhus; but can never put a stop to it completely. Why should not His Excellency, whose broad-minded sympathy with suffering humanity through the influence of ignorance, is so keen, abolish this cruel practice altogether, by penalising it within his jurisdiction. This, in our opinion, will meet the adverse criticism from the educated people of this country.—*The Arya Patrika*."

In respect of branding at Dwarka, Burton has said:

"Amongst the Hindus I have met with men who have proceeded upon a pilgrimage to Dwarka, and yet who would not receive the brand of the god, because lying would then be forbidden to them. A confidential servant of a

friend in Bombay, naively declared that he had not been marked, as the act would have ruined him. There is sad truth in what he said. Lying to the Oriental is meat and drink and the roof that shelters him."

While the Oriental condemns the branding as a cruelty and almost barbarism, the Occidental imagines it a mark for unflinching truth, a complete cure for lying—the vice of the East. At the same time, he thinks lying is calculated to provide food, drink and shelter. Hunger and thirst and next to them safety from inclement weather are the chief guides of all human action. Can anything that secures these be wholly despised?

In his "Hausaland," the Rev. Charles Henry Robinson, M. A., Trinity College, remarks:

"There is one spot in Mecca, which, one can only charitably presume, is but seldom visited by pilgrims from Hausaland. It is the enclosure which contains the Kabba or sacred building considered the most sacred spot in Mecca. All who enter are pledged by the act of doing so, never again to tell a lie! According to Burton, a large proportion of the pilgrims who visit Mecca refuse to enter this enclosure owing to their unwillingness to give any such pledge."

We have, in *Reis* of 4th June and 17th September 1904, pointed out that both the disguised Afghan pilgrim to El Medinah and Mecca and the Rev. author of Hausaland are not correct in their statements.

As regards branding, we wrote:

"It is a common practice to brand or tattoo the body with the name of any deity or 'chakra,' in the belief that its contact with the body will keep it pure or the particular deity be ever with the marked. This is an extreme form of worship or devotion. The brand is only an evidence of the pilgrimage made and no more. It is not associated with promise of any kind. It may be an indication of a wish to retire from the world."

Also:

"Granted what is said in the extracts, the European and Christian does not see the full force of the refusal of the Musalman to enter the most sacred spot in Mecca or that of the Hindu to be marked at Dwarka. He is content to draw the conclusion that that refusal is proof of the Musalman or the Hindu's innate love of untruth. His Christian perspicacity cannot penetrate farther. He cannot see the reverence for truth in that refusal. We know that a truly pious Hindu is unwilling to bind himself to speak the truth, not because he deals in untruth, but because, in the first place, he thinks that such an oath is inconsistent with truth, that it exposes the taker of the oath to the suspicion of not usually speaking the truth; and then, having too much reverence for truth, he is afraid, lest after the oath, which he reverences as truth, he be unconsciously led astray into any untruth of whatever degree. There could not be greater abhorrence of untruth."

With all its superior civilization, the West cannot rise to the height of truth of Oriental conception. What means the oath of office in advanced Christian countries? The King, his ministers and governors, must be bound down by oath to do their duties rightly. In its absence—if they go wrong, they cannot be brought to book. It is the oath, therefore, that must be supposed to keep them to the correct path. What a low ideal of high authority!

Those who must be bound to speak the truth, will do well not to cavil at those who, respecting truth, refuse to be bound not to speak an untruth, which they consider a sin, from the punishment whereof they cannot escape. These are certainly more honourable men than those who make truth a matter of contract—by an oath—the breach whereof is to be visited, on regular proof, with the punishment of human law—the breach of contract, not untruth."

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PARTITION DAY.

MOHAMEDAN MEMORIAL

To the right Hon. John Morley, P. C., M. P., Secretary of State for India in Council.

The humble memorial of the inhabitants of the New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, adopted at a public meeting assembled on "Partition Day."

Humbly Sheweth,—

That your memorialists are inhabitants of the New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, created and brought into existence by the Government of His Excellency Lord Curzon and confirmed and brought into force by your Hon. Predecessor in office.

2. That your memorialists heard with the greatest joy and gratification that in spite of the virulent opposition and agitation—set in motion at the instigation and with the active co-operation of certain individuals residing at Calcutta against the creation and subsistence of the New Province, your Hon. Self has declared the partition of Bengal to be a "settled fact."

8. That however, owing to the persistent agitation set in motion by the so-called "India Party" in the House of Commons, the Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Prime Minister, while deprecating further discussion on the subject in the House, was induced to say in the House of Commons, that—"if any substantial grounds of reviewing this settlement are laid before him on good authority my Right Hon. friend (i.e., your Right Hon. Self) will give them his careful consideration."

4. That this expression of opinion of the Chief Minister of the Crown has greatly elated the oppositionists (who are herein, for brevity's sake, described as anti-partitionists) who have been urged by certain members of Parliament to continue their system of agitation which for the past year has consisted of boycotting, picketing, and otherwise annoying and harassing the people of the New Province, and the authorities both of the Government of India and of that of the New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

5. Your memorialists will only cite an instance or two to show how the anti-partitionists are harassing the authorities and causing their due administration of the Province to be irksome and difficult, e.g., by an organised and combined system of refusing to participate in the privilege of electing members to the new Legislative Council of the Province; of gentlemen who have hitherto discharged honorary duties of magistrate and other public offices, now refusing to any longer serve Government until this partition is annulled or modified in the manner proposed by the agitators, while officers are insulted and even, it is alleged, spat upon in order that they may be humiliated and reduced in the estimation of the masses, and otherwise intimidated so as to deter them in the proper discharge of their duties. Last, though not the least, they persist in refusing the honours and compliments due to the Lieutenant-Governor when His Honour visits any town or district in his official capacity; while the people are being beaten and bullied, their goods destroyed for selling or purchasing European or Bedeshi goods and articles, and even large bodies of operatives, like those engaged on railways, the Government Press, etc., etc., are misled into going on strikes and thus disorganising, dislocating and paralysing the great public departments of the country.

6. After the opinion of your Right Hon. Self, mentioned in para. 2 hereof it was feely felt in this country that the agitation, spurious and factitious as it was which was causing such harm and

injury to the Province, would have died a natural death, but the expression of views, mentioned in para. 3 hereof, of the Prime Minister has revived the agitation and determined the agitators to renew with greater vigour their work of the past year, and this has caused and is causing untold dismay and consternation amongst the peace-loving population and particularly amongst your memorialists and their co-religionists of the Province. Therefore in case the Government of India and your Right Hon. Self in Council may be led into believing that this opposition to the existing partition of Bengal is honest, genuine, and led only in the true interest of the Province, your memorialists have deemed it necessary in their interest and self-protection to lay before your Hon. Council, some of the stock arguments hitherto urged by these agitators for the annulment or, at least, modification of the partition of Bengal.

7. At the outset it was intended to dispute, but on the convincing evidence published by the Government of India, it has been practically admitted by the most strenuous opponents of the measure that the burden imposed on the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is immense, and substantial relief should be afforded to him, and the oppositionists now only urge certain remedies in substitution of and grounds against the constitution of the existing New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. These proposed remedies and grounds may be briefly stated to be:—

(a) The conversion of the Bengal Government into a Presidency Government with an Executive Council.

Many weighty and convincing arguments have been advanced by His Excellency Lord Curzon and other distinguished statesmen against this proposal, and it is unnecessary to repeat them, but your memorialists feel that, in addition to what has already been stated, there are other grounds which, it is desirable, should not be lost sight of, viz:

(1) A Presidency Government is far more expensive than that of a Lieutenant-Governor.

(2) A Presidency Government has been described by a distinguished Journalist as "a Government by clerks", and this, it is submitted, cannot be gainsaid, for a gentleman, outside of the Civil Service of India, as a Governor of a Presidency, is quite ignorant of his work and has to be under the tutelage of the Secretariat for at least the first two years of his office. That he is constantly overruled and has to give way—and rightly so—to his Executive Council, who on the ground of greater experience and expert knowledge of the country can speak with the weight of authority which no ordinary person from England, unacquainted with the previous events and history of the Province and method and routine in the matter of the administration of the country, would feel justified in vetoing; that, being generally entirely new to the Presidency most of the time of such a Governor is taken up in constantly touring over the various districts in his charge, during which tours the ordinary work of the Government is virtually disposed of by the member of the Executive Council, in charge of the department; in short it is an admitted fact that two-thirds of the resolutions issued in the name of the Governor in Council are made and issued in the absence of the Governor himself or without his executive control. That a Governor so appointed, unless he is a member of the Civil Service of India, is simply in the hands of his Secretariat officials and there by supersessions and injuries are done to distinguished members of the service which causes serious discontent and heart-burning, and which ultimately leads to the temporary demoralisation of the whole service, which can never occur under a Lieutenant-Governor who has generally some 30 years of experience of the public service, and who is more or less personally acquainted with the worth and merit of individual Civilians under him: for instance, a few years ago certain wholesale supersessions in the Bombay Presidency, caused the sudden retirement of so large a number of the Senior Members of the Civil Service as to occasion most bitter comments in the Public Press. That an administration under a Lieutenant-Governor, it may be stated without demur, is capable of greater benefit and advantages to the people. Proof of this is to be found in the fact that the Presidency of Bengal is admitted to be the most successful and prosperous, its people the most advanced and cultured throughout the whole of India. While the Lieutenant-Governorships of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, of the Panjab and Burma though creations of recent date, stand in comparison to the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay in their administrations, equal, if not superior, to these ancient Presidencies in the material social, political, religious, and educational advancement of the people of their respective Provinces.

(b) The separation of Behar and Chota Nagpur and formation of a new Commissionership.

or

The amalgamation of Orissa and less advanced parts of Chota Nagpur with the Central Provinces and their elevation to a Lieutenant-Governorship,

or

The creation of a Lieutenant-Governorship of Behar to its

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court,

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Pandit Narayan Chandra Vidhyaratna.

Treasurer.

Babu Anulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their *Viksha* on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

clude the divisions of Patna, Bhagalpur, Chota Nagpur, and Orissa and Feudatory States.

Your memorialists respectfully submit that all of the above suggested remedies are mere make-shifts, while the existing constitution of the New Province far surpasses and outweighs the advantages of a beneficent administration to be obtained by the adoption of any of the three above-mentioned remedies. Not any of these three can be conducive to the revival of the former prosperity of the city of Dacca, and to the expansion of trade and commerce of Eastern Bengal, nor to the making of Chittagong the second great port of Bengal, the interests of which have to be sacrificed to the pressing needs of the port of Calcutta, while the interest and advantages to Assam, hitherto a backward Province, are enhanced to a vast extent by association with such advanced and prosperous Districts as from the New Province, but above all the existing Province has enabled the consolidation of the Mahomedan Community as a whole under one Government which your memorialists consider to be of the greatest advantage to them and their Community.

(3.) That the New Province divides the Bengali speaking community and it will suffer (1) nationally, (2) linguistically and (3) socially. As regards (1) your memorialists beg to draw the attention of your Honourable Council to a Paper read before the Indian Section of the Society of Arts on the Partition of Bengal by Sir James Bourdillon (a distinguished member of the Civil Service and once officiating Lieutenant Governor of Bengal) wherein he stated:—"If national sentiment is animated by any real utility of its own, the mere adjustment of territorial boundary ought to present no obstacles to its development. The Mahratta speaking people are spread over at least two administrations, and yet they retain a distinct and rational thought, language, and political life." As regards (2) there is hardly any ground for the make-believe apprehension of the anti-partitionists. If the ancient literature of India can flourish under different political divisions, sometimes represented by independent kingdoms, there is scarcely any reason to suppose that the Bengalis will suffer by the mere duplication of the administrative machinery of the Province. While as regards (3) the last 12 months' experience has shown how foolish and mythical are the alleged grounds for reconsideration of the existing partition. Marriages have, as of old, been effected between Bengalis living in Calcutta and elsewhere and those in the New Province; while political divisions do not now-a-days affect social conditions is evident from the fact that, although the Bengalis of Sylhet have for the last 30 years been separated from Bengal, they still freely inter-marry and have social intercourse with those of the neighbouring Districts of Tipperah, Mymensingh, and Dacca, and while the anti-partitionists have only looked to their own selfish interest, they have entirely ignored that the present Partition of Bengal has made your memorialists and their co-religionists a united people under one administration.

(d.) That the initial and permanent costs of the new province would seriously add to the heavy burdens of an already overburdened population.

Your memorialists respectfully submit that it is impossible to secure an increased efficiency without increase of expenditure, but your memorialists have the happiness to find that the Government have fulfilled the assurance given—that the cost involved by the creation of the new Province will be entirely met from Imperial Funds and by adjustment of the financial relations of the New Province with the Government of India, and that it will not add a farthing to the taxation of the country.

(9.) In the above paragraph your memorialists have ventured to refute the chief and main stock arguments with which the anti-partitionists have for the last twelve months attempted to mislead the people and to create a false and factitious public opinion. They have deliberately kept silent over the manifold advantages accruing from the formation of the New Province which may be briefly enumerated as—

(4.) The rise and revival of the ancient city of Dacca and development of the port of Chittagong, which will lead to the expansion of trade and commerce throughout the New Province and specially when Dacca is connected with a system of Railways and the hitherto neglected great rivers and waterways of the Province are properly utilized and the outlying and inaccessible regions are by means thereof brought into touch with the Capital City and the port of Chittagong.

(5.) The duplication of the administrative machinery will raise the standard of efficiency in the Government of the New Province, thereby affording greater security to the lives and property of the people.

(6.) The advantage of a Provincial Council which will give the landholders and educated middle class of the Province greater opportunities of securing a seat in the local Council and will enable them to bring to notice and remove local difficulties and inconveniences of the people.

(7.) The people of Assam Valley will now get all the advantages of a more perfect administrative machinery without any increase of taxes, and the people of Assam in general will, as already observed, be raised to a higher degree of civilisation by coming into contact with more advanced and cultured people.

(8.) Eastern Bengal and Assam which up to now were notorious as being the most unprotected part of the Presidency of Bengal will now have an effective Police.

(9.) For educational facilities which have hitherto been meagre will be now vastly increased and will be on a par with those of the other Provinces of India.

The above are a few of the advantages to accrue to the people of these parts by the maintenance of the New Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, but there is one which the experience of the past 12 months has shown cannot be left unnoticed, viz.—that in no period in the history of these parts of the country have the people ever had the opportunity of so constantly meeting and coming in touch with the head of the administration as has been the case with that of His Honor Sir Bampfylde Fuller's administration of the past 12 months. The Lieutenant-Governor was constantly touring throughout the whole Province, visiting places never heretofore visited by a Lieutenant-Governor, coming into touch with the people, and personally inquiring into the local wants and requirements of the districts of these parts; this has given license satisfaction to the people as an assurance of their now being able to get a personal hearing for their complaints.

10. Your memorialists respectfully submit that the reason stated in para 8, and facts and circumstances noticed in para 9, respectively sufficiently refute the alleged grounds urged by the anti-partitionists against, and justify the maintenance without any modification of the existing Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, and that the agitation against the Partition is factitious and unreal, being raised and created by the above referred to individuals of Calcutta, who find by the Partition their influence diminished, if not their occupation wholly gone.

Your memorialists therefore pray that your Honourable Council will determine once for all that the existing Partition of Bengal shall not be in any way modified until time and experience have established grave and serious inconveniences and difficulties in the efficient administration of the Province so as to necessitate any change thereof.

2. That if needs be a Commission be appointed to take and record evidence from the people as to whether any change or modification of the existing Province is desired or necessary.

3. That your memorialists may get such other relief as to your Honourable Council may seem fit.

And your memorialists, will as in duty bound ever pray,
Dacca Oct. 16.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Coote, K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so great an tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Editor of *Thacker, Spink and Co.*); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honored than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its prime years under Kristodis Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press, nothing is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs, could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a *life*. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression, Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahmin of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such an historian as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own errors could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental flourish or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult task of writing a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his ardor.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The *Pioneer*, Allahabad Oct. 5, 1895.

PICK-ME-UP

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AND
REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,242.

THE PESSIMIST FIREFLY.

By SAM WALTER FOSB.

A pessimist firefly sat on a weed,
In the dark of a moonless night ;
With folded wings drooped over his breast,
He moped and he moaned for light.
"There is nothing but weeds on the earth," said he,
"And there isn't a star in the sky ;
And the best I can do in a world like this
Is to sit on this weed and die,
Yea, all that I need
Is to sit on this weed,
Just sit on this weed and die.

"There is nought but this miserable swamp beneath,
And there isn't star overhead."
"Then be your own star---then be your own star,"
An optimist firefly said,
"If you'll leap from your weed, and will open your wings,
And bravely fly afar,
You will find you will shine like a star yourself,
You will be yourself a star,
And the thing that you need
Is to leap from your weed,
And be yourself a star."

Then the pessimist firefly leaped from his weed,
And floated far and free ;
And he found that he shone like a star himself,
Like a living star was he.
And the optimist firefly followed and said,
"Why sit on a weed and groan ?
For the firefly, friend, who uses his wings
Has plenty of light of his own.
He has plenty of light
For the darkest night,
He has plenty of light of his own."

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Ye firefly souls, with your folded wings,
Why sit with the weeds in the night ?
Lift up your wings and illumine the dark
With your own self-luminant light ;
For darkness comes with the folded wings,
And shrouds the starless land ;
But there's light enough for the darkest way,
If you let your wings expand.
There is plenty of light
For the darkest night,
If you let your wings expand.

---From "The Victorian Alliance Record."

MUHAMMAD ON EDUCATION.

STRAY SAYINGS.

The Messenger of God was asked, What is the greatest vice of man ; He said, "You must not ask me about vice, but ask about virtue ; and he repeated this three times, after which he said, 'Know ye ! The worst of men is a bad learned man, and a good learned man is the best.'

Philosophy is the stray camel of the faithful ; take hold of it wherever ye come across it.

Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave.

The time is near in which nothing will remain of Islam but its name and of the Koran but its mere appearance, and the mosques of Muslims will be destitute of knowledge and worship ; and the learned men will be the worst people under the heavens ; and contention and strife will issue from them and it will return upon themselves.

Excessive knowledge is better than excessive praying ; and the support of religion is abstinence.

It is better to teach knowledge one hour in the night than to pray the whole night.

That person who shall die while he is studying knowledge, in order to revive the knowledge of religion, will be only one degree inferior to the prophets.

One learned man is harder on the devil than a thousand ignorant worshippers.

The desire of knowledge is a divine commandment for every Muslim ; and to instruct in knowledge those who are unworthy of it is like putting pearls, jewels, and gold on the necks of swine.

To listen to the words of the learned, and to instil into others the lessons of science, is better than religious exercises.

The ink of the scholar is more holy than the blood of the martyr. He who leaveth home in search of knowledge, walketh in the path of God.

One hour's meditation on the work of the Creator is better than seventy years of prayer.

The acquisition of knowledge is a duty incumbent on every Muslim, male and female.

Acquire knowledge. It enlighteneth its possessor to distinguish right from wrong ; it lighteth the way to Heaven ; it is our friend in the desert, our society in solitude, our companion when friendless ; it

guideth us to happiness; it sustaineth us in misery; it is an ornament amongst friends, and an armour against enemies.

With knowledge man riseth to the heights of goodness and to a noble position, associateth with sovereigns in this world, and attaineth to the perfect of happiness in the next.—The Muhammadan, Oct. 18.

THE OPIUM EDICT.

The following is the text of the Chinese Imperial decree for the abolition of opium, as translated for the "North China Herald."

September 20.

Since the abolition against opium the poison has spread through the country until it is almost over all China. Those who become addicted to the habit are known to have wasted their time, neglected their trades, ruined their constitutions and even squander their property, because of it. For the several tens of years since this condition of things China has become poorer and poorer every day and it makes us deeply indignant to speak of this matter. As the Throne is now determined on the cause and on reform, it becomes incumbent upon us to exhort our people to stop the pernicious habit, pluck out this cancer which is eating deep into our bodies and strive for an era of physical health and harmony. We, therefore, hereby decree that a limit of ten years be given from date to entirely get rid of the bane of opium smoking, and we hereby further command the Council of State Affairs (Chengwuch'ui) to consider measures about the future strict prohibition of the habit and the planting of the poppy plant throughout the Empire, and report the same to us for approval.

PROPOSED RIVER POLICE FORCE.

MR. BRAMLEY'S REPORT

The records dealing with river crime in the riverian districts of Bengal and Assam are very complete and clearly establish the fact that piracy has existed on the rivers from the earliest times, and that except for some efforts no redress has ever been made to cope with the difficulties of the situation or to deal adequately with the evil by the introduction of preventive measures of a permanent and uniform nature. That is to say, the difficulties of the situation have not been revealed rather than nobly faced. After reviewing the history of river crimes since 1824, Mr. Bramley goes on to say:—

It was clear that crime of a very serious nature was rampant on all the waterways, that the property on the rivers was unsafe to a degree which could not be tolerated by the Government of any civilised country, and that criminals made free use of trade boats and the guise of river traders as a cloak for the purposes of the commission of crime. The Government of Bengal, therefore, determined to take immediate steps for the protection of the waterways, by the organization of a properly equipped and trained River Police force. Proposals to this effect as also for the registration of country trade boats were submitted to the Police Commission. The Government of India recognising the gravity of the situation directed that the evil should be effectively dealt with "even at a relatively high cost," and as a preliminary measure sanctioned the enlistment of an establishment of three Superintendents, one Assistant Superintendent, six inspectors, 30 sub-inspectors, 44 head constables, and 314 constables to form the nucleus of an effective River Police force. The question was however, described as being "one of no little difficulty." The proposals submitted "though fairly well defined" were stated to be incomplete in two essential respects. "The registration of boats had not been fully considered nor have the Steamer Companies been approached. In both directions commercial interests were involved which demand careful consideration." A special officer was therefore deputed to "conduct further inquiries and to assist in maturing detailed proposals." This has resulted in still further important disclosures, involving the losses of insured cargoes carried by country boats—especially in respect to jute and rice—indicated the existence of a widespread system of fraud, since the statistics obtained proved that the losses on the rivers were undoubtedly influenced by the fluctuation of market rates. From the statistics furnished by the Marine Insurance Association, it is proved that insured cargoes of the value of Rs. 13,67,366 has been lost on the inland rivers in the five years 1900-1904. That theft and wholesale pilfering of goods in transit was not only prevalent on the rivers and at all steamer and railway junctions, but was

especially so in and around the Port of Calcutta. That expensive colonies of river criminals had formed in such localities, and that the want of a system of verification of characters had resulted in criminals finding employment on steamers, etc. That the Port Police in Calcutta were undermanned, and inadequately equipped and indifferently supervised. That no efficient system of water patrol was in force, specially in the rains, and that the River Hughly was infested with gangs of river pirates and thieves to the same extent as the other rivers in Bengal and Assam.

Remedial Measures.

To remedy these defects it is proposed to abolish the existing River Patrols. To raise, equip, train and post a permanent River Police force on all the main trade routes throughout Bengal and Assam, and in the United Provinces up to Allahabad and Fyzabad, and to reorganize the Port Police establishment in Calcutta. To divide all the waterways concerned in the three Provinces into four distinct River Police Districts, each under the charge of a Gazetted Police officer:— To establish in all four districts a regular series of River police-stations, out-posts, and coast guard stations, so as to ensure effective patrolling, prevent the commission of crime, and to afford the public and traders who make use of the waterways every facility for bringing complaints promptly to notice. To provide an effective agency for the investigation and detection of crime committed on the rivers and to co-operate with the local District Police, in intercepting the movements of criminals, the prevention of offences in connection with alluvial land disputes, and in dealing with river crime on the more unfrequented waterways off the main routes. To divide the force into two distinct sections, viz., Preventive and Detective, in order to avoid the obvious disadvantages of a force which is expected to perform both duties indiscriminately. The Detectives whenever necessary will work under the direct orders of the Provincial Investigation Department. To equip the force with a suitable fleet of launches and patrol boats, and to arm and train the force in the use of firearms so as to enable them to run down the fast country craft generally used by criminals and to deal effectively with the dangerous gangs which infest the rivers. To take steps to introduce training in the use of boats for the District Police, in districts where such training is necessary, and to gradually improve the boat equipment of certain police-stations in order to enable the local police to deal more effectively with work on the subsidiary steamers. To make the Port Police a Division of the Hughly River District to increase the establishment, improve the equipment and supervision, redistribute the police-station areas, and to place it in charge of a gazetted officer in the position of Deputy to the Commissioner. To follow the systems prevalent on the railways in respect to co-operation in the matter of investigation of cases between the river and the District Police, as also in respect to the disposal by Magistrates of River Police cases, and to appoint Special Magistrates where existing courts are inconveniently situated, i.e., "The Port of Calcutta" where the addition of a Marine Magistrate to the Presidency bench appears to be most desirable.

To commence operation by—(a) "Appointing Officers" to select sites for police-stations, out-posts, coast-guard stations, to compile the station records at each change, and to collate or prepare the departmental records and registers relating to all criminals now known to be at work on the Rivers and River Criminal Intelligence generally. (b) "The formation of training schools" at Narayanganj and Calcutta, and as soon as the necessary accommodation and equipment is ready, to enlist and thoroughly train the officers and men before sending them out on duty at the various Police Ports. (c) Taking in hand the construction of the flotilla of launches and boats. To confine the enlistment of men to castes which habitually work on the water and to pay the establishment at rates prevailing on the waterways. Whilst admitting the gravity of the present situation, and the necessity for early action, the hasty appointment and posting of an inadequately trained force without definite powers or responsibilities, or without the means of dealing effectively and prominently with the case, is strongly deprecated. Thorough preliminary training and organization is advocated before the River Police force can safely be entrusted with their new duties, and in order to facilitate the measures to be taken for the prevention of river crime, as also in order to safeguard the interests of both boatmen and traders, and in order to supply information of vital importance in dealing with trade, fraud and river crime generally, it is proposed to insist on the registration of trade and passenger boats and in some cases of fisher boats and to compel "manjis" or boatmasters to take out character certificates or licenses. Legislation in this respect will therefore be necessary.

The estimated expenditure on account of River Police is Rs. 13,17,710 initial Rs. 5,19,073 recurring.

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REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, October 27, 1906.

ANIMAL SACRIFICE.

SACRIFICE is a term that figures largely in philosophical, religious and historical works. Our subject to-day is limited to animal sacrifice offered to deities by the Hindus. Some preliminary general observations are, however, necessary. This subject has been treated of by well-known writers, such as M. Albert Reville, Lord Avebury, Rājā Rājendralāla Mitra, Messrs. Andrew Ling, Crook and a host of other orientalists. Nothing can be more inherent to the higher nature of man than the idea of slaughtering living animals for the propitiation of the great creator of the universe. Yet, looking to the character of the different systems of religion which governed the conscience of man in primitive times, it would by no means be true as to the idea that all religions considered sacrifice, more or less, as predominantly the means of realising the union of man with godhead. The only exceptions are the polytheistic and pantheistic religions, which place it in the same category with the symbol, but they count very little in religious history. In the polytheistic religions, the universality of sacrifice is unquestionable as its predominant feature. In pantheistic religions it is transformed. But it is a feature. Sacrifice obtains, in some shape or other, in every religion.

Since the vedic time, sacrifice of animals is an important part of Hindu ceremonials. Animals of different kinds were offered to different gods and goddesses. The sacrifice went so far as to include human beings. The recondite and mystic customs as found in the Brahmanas, probably refer to human sacrifice. What was 'Parusha medha'? We need not enter into details. The Shundishpeha hymns of the Rik Samhita bear out our remarks. This horrible rite had the sanction of religion at a very early period, but it disapproved subsequently as humanity grew. We cannot wash off our Aryan ancestors the blot which appears to stick to all races—that of having, at some time, practised human sacrifice. In later times also human sacrifices were met with. That the practice was abandoned gradually is a matter of historical truth. It was called the "way of the Sudras."

Lord Avebury takes a sympathetic view of human sacrifice in his "Origin of Civilization." He writes:

The feeling which has led to the sacrifice of animals would naturally culminate in that of men, so natural, indeed does the idea of human sacrifice appear to the human mind in this stage that we meet with it in various nations all over the world; and it is unjust to regard it, with Prescott, as evidence of fiendish passions: on the contrary, it indicates deep and religious feeling, perverted by an erroneous conception of the Divine character.

To come to animal sacrifices. As said before, the extent of the subject and its immense import, not merely in actual life, outer and inner, but in the evolution of religious and philosophical thought of one of the world's great races, demands a much larger treatment than we can give it here. In fact, the study of the Vedas would be woefully incomplete if it did not include the rituals and ceremonies of the gifted Aryans and the causes that prompted them. The subject of yajna, sacrifice, naturally raises this question in the mind of the thoughtful student—What was the essence and nature of Aryan

sacrifice? Before we venture to reply to this question, we would refer our readers first to the great Books themselves, the Vedas, and then to the writings of Orientalists. Abel Bergaigne, of all Vedic scholars, has treated this question most thoroughly, has gone deepest and nearest to the root of it.

It is difficult to understand the spirit of the yajna or sacrifice performed by the Aryans as we find it in the Vedas. Stripped of all mysticism and metaphor, "sacrifice" is an imitation of the chief phenomena of the sky and atmosphere. Now it is a notion as old as the race, that a thing ardently wished for may be made to come to pass in reality, by performing or imitating that thing in effigy. A little research into the customs of different races reveals the fact that this strange operation was one of those that had earliest, for we find it very much alive about the later Middle Ages, in the form of the spells of the Black Art which consisted in making a waxen effigy of an enemy, then pushing it over a fire, or sticking a pin into the place where the heart stood, or, in the expectation that the person created thus in effigy would, when destroyed, be a consumption or heart attack. The custom of executing criminals by burning or hanging, or of punishing persons in effigy, even they are out of it, is clearly based on the same primitive idea. And if efficient for evil, why should not the same spell be efficient for good also? Sacrifice, looked at from this point of view, would be, then, a sort of beneficent conjuring, in accordance with the bright and genial Aryan spirit, while the dark and lowering Pagan nature reverts to spells and incantations for malicious, injurious purposes. Bergaigne mentions a custom which he was told of as still existing in the Isle of Ceylon, and which consists in placing near a growing fruit a pasteboard effigy, of the size which it is desired that the real fruit should attain. In early times, when the people lived a simple life and thought of high or higher subjects, two things were needful, light and rain—Fire and Water—Agni and Soma. And here we come to the cornerstone of the particular Vedic rite—the yajna or sacrifice. They are produced in two of the three worlds—the sky and the atmosphere. The Devas (powers of nature) are always producing them—this is the gods' allotted work, and they do it unceasingly, following 'the broad path of Rita' (the Law). Only they need sustenance, to invigorate them and keep them ever living, ever young; the sustenance they receive by partaking of the 'drink of immortality'—the amrita—the heavenly Soma which they distil ('press'), out of the watery elements somewhere in the highest heaven, the hidden world, the sanctuary of the universe. The Aryans believed that all this work, the everlasting keeping of the world-machinery going, has an object, viz., to benefit the race of men that dwells on earth. It is but meet therefore that men should try to be on good terms with the gods, try to please them.

Now we come to the object of sacrifice. Sir M. M. Williams writes:

The first aim was to present a simple thank-offering. The second was to nourish the gods with the essence of the offered food, and so strengthen them for their duty of maintaining the universe. The next idea was that of making these operations the means of wresting boons from the invigorated and gratified deities, and so accomplishing some specific earthly object, such, for ex-

ample, as the birth of a son. A still more ambitious idea was that of employing sacrifice as an instrument of superhuman powers and even exaltation to heaven.

We have yet to face another important question. The lesser mortals offer thanks to the Devas for some benefit; but to whom and for what purpose do the Devas offer sacrifices, perform yajna? The Taittiriya Brahmana says "by sacrifices the gods attained heaven." The gods were merely mortals till they conquered Death by sacrifices. There is a hymn in the Rîgveda (X 88) which describes in most of the verses the sacrifice performed by the gods. "The world was hidden, swallowed in darkness." The gods sacrificed, and Agni was born; there was joy in heaven and on earth, as he covered with his splendour the two worlds and the atmosphere. Into "this Agni" (the fire lit in heaven) the wise, holy gods poured libations, singing hymns—then they divided him into three parts or forms, and placed one as sun in the sky—to "travel for ever inextinguishable and shine day by day." We will not carry the subject further. The following verse explains the nature of the sacrifice as it was offered to gods by themselves:

Drinking with Agni's tongue, pure in mind, they sat by the centre of the sanctuary. They powerfully supported the heaven, they poured down the waters, Having invented [literally begotten] the sacrifice they offered it to themselves.

Mr. Z. A. Ragozin puts the case in a nutshell in the following lines:

We are so used to the idea of sacrifice being an offering tendered to higher beings in thanks-giving or supplication, that our mind at first refuses to grasp what seems so utter an absurdity as these same higher beings sacrificing to themselves. A bit of etymology may help us. If we take the word "sacrifice" in its literal Latin sense that of "sacred action," not "offering" in particular, "oblation" being the proper word for that—the strange paradox will assume a somewhat different aspect. Celestial sacrifice, as a "sacred action," performed by the gods to delight themselves, presents nothing absurd or incomprehensible. This is about as far, however, as mythical metaphors can go,—and having got so far, perhaps we have too found the "supreme essence" of Aryan sacrifice "in the highest heaven."

Even sacrifice itself was sometimes personified as a god.

After the spirit, came the letter. And we now come across different animals sacrificed to gods and goddesses. In succeeding times, the animal sacrifice became very prominent, and many ugly scenes are connected therewith. The shedding of blood was believed by some to expiate sin. The victim consigned to the fire was thought to be an expiation for sins committed by the gods, the fathers and men. Probably, the idea was not so much of killing an innocent victim for the removal of guilt as of warding off the punishment which an angry being was likely to inflict. "It is certainly remarkable," writes Sir M. M. Williams,

that the idea of sacrifice as an atonement for sin seems never to have taken firm hold of the Hindu mind. . . . In later times the deities were thought to have a malevolent side to their characters, and when sacrifice was needed for the propitiation of an angry deity, it was called Kali, who delights in blood. But in this there is no idea of offering guilt or making a vicarious offering for sin. The ordinary Hindu wobbly rejects the notion of trusting to anything for salvation but his own self-righteousness; that is, to his own merit (punya) acquired through his own pious acts, or through the Karma-marga, way of ceremonial acts, presided over by Brahmins.

Some of the Purans speak highly of the merits of animal sacrifice, offered to the goddess, Kali, Durga. But a close study reveals the truth. There are injunctions indeed to kill animals, but that is to please the deities only. The householder and the killer are both condemned. The act of taking one's

life is condemned in no measured language. Then bloodless sacrifice is preferred to a bloody one. In fact, the bloody sacrifice was so much objected to that the Vaisnavas have formed themselves into a strong and large sect. Besides, the worship of the Goddess, Durga or Kali, in which, among others, animal sacrifice is indulged in most, has a satwik side of it, i.e., in which flower or sugar offering is made. This is the first and best of the three—kinds the Swatic, Rajasik and Tamasic. Now, do we want to give up the best of worship in face of this clear reading of the Shastras? The idea must be allowed that the vali or sacrifice, though an imitation of Vedic yajna, is a gross degeneration. The shastras thus aid the modern sentiment against animal sacrifice for purposes of religion. In many families, animal sacrifice has been discontinued. So we think, looking to the history and genesis of sacrifice, it behoves the Hindus to abandon the slaying of animals at Pujas. The long established cruel custom, though for religion, requires to be removed by a bold and strong mind. And if we rely on our scriptures, we stand on no sandy foundation.

THE RAKHI.

At the Partition Day celebration in Bengal, Rakhi occupied a prominent place. In fact, Rakhi may survive all the other forms observed on that occasion, it being the simplest and a reminder of a friendly custom of the Rajputs, a kind of Freemasonry. The Barons of Rajputana are well-known for chivalry and if any act of their finds an echo in the mind of modern Bengalis, whose cowardice has been the target of some foreign writers' shot, it is undoubtedly an advance in the right direction. The gallantry of the Bengalis is shrouded in mystery, rather our boys do not read any account of the same. Under such circumstances, the Bengalis are to be congratulated on the device of a ceremony which recalls the good old days of Rajasthan. It is not generally known that the origin of Rakhi is to be found in the Purans. To wrathful Sage Durvasa is attributed the foundation of the Rakhi. The Sage ordered the presiding deity of the month of Sravan to put on a Rakhi for dispelling the evil effects of stars. The Rajputs made use of it in their own brave acts. This ceremony is celebrated even now in the Upper Provinces and Rajputana in the full moon Sankranti or last day of the month of Sravan. In Rajputana only the ladies, priests and Brahmins have the privilege of tying the Rakhi bracelet. The ladies on that day, send the Rakhi to their brothers or those whom they mean to treat as such. The recipient felt himself bound by honour to protect the life and property of the donor. The Rajput ladies went beyond their castes and clans and presented the Rakhi to Moslems and Christians. In Calcutta we find Up-country and Urya servants and darwans observe the Rakhi day in the Sravan full-moon. Lieutenant Colonel James Tod, late Political Agent to the Western Rajput States, speaks of the celebration in Rajputana in spring. In his "Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan or the Central and Western Rajput States of India, he says:

"The festival of the bracelet (Rakhi) is in spring, and whatever

its origin. It is one of the few when an intercourse of gallantry of the most delicate nature is established between the fair sex and the cavaliers of Rajasthan. Though the bracelet may be sent by maidens, it is only on occasions of urgent necessity or danger. The Rajpoot dame bestows with the Rakhi the title of adopted brother; and while its acceptance secures to her all the protection of a 'Cavaliere servente,' scandal itself never suggests any other tie to his devotion. He may hazard his life in her cause, and yet never receive a smile in reward, for he cannot even see the fair object who, as brother of her adoption, has constituted him her defender. But there is a charm in the mystery of such connection, never endangered by close observation, and the loyal to the fair may well attach a value to the public recognition of being the Rakhi-hand Bhai, the 'bracelet-hand brother' of a princess. The intrinsic value of such pledge is never looked to, nor is it requisite it should be costly, though it varies with means and rank of the donor, and may be of flock silk and spangles or gold chains and gems. The acceptance of the pledge and its return is by the 'katchhi' or consecration of simple silk or satin, or gold brocade and pearls. In shape or application there is nothing similar to Europe, and as denoting the most delicate part of the structure of the fair, it is peculiarly appropriate as an emblem of devotion. A whole province has often accompanied the katchhi, and the monarch of India was so pleased with this courteous device in the customs of Rajpoots, on receiving the bracelet of the princess Karnavati, which invested him with the title of her brother, and uncle and protector to her infant Oodh Singh, that he pledged himself to her service, "even if the demand were the castle of Ratanpur." Hemavoon proved himself a true knight, and even abandoned his conquests in Bengal when called on to redeem his pledge, and succour Chetore, and the widows and minor sons of Sanga Rana. Hemavoon had the highest proofs of the worth of those courting his protection; he was with his father Baber in all his wars in India, and at the battle of Biana his prowess was conspicuous, and is recorded by Baber's own pen. He amply fulfilled his pledge, expelled the foe from Chetore, took Mandoo by assault, and, as some revenge for her king's aiding the king of Guzerat, he sent for the Rana Bikramjee, whom, following their own notions of investiture, he girt with a sword in the captured citadel of his foe.

The Mahomedan historians, strangers to their customs, or the secret motives which caused the emperor to abandon Bengal, ascribe it to the Rana's solicitation; but we may credit the annals, which are in unison with the chivalrous notions of the Rajpoots, into which succeeding monarchs, the great Akbar, his son Jehangir, and Shah Jehan, entered with delight; and even Aurungzeb, two of whose original letters to the queen-mother of Oodipur are now in the author's possession, and are remarkable for their elegance and purity of diction, and couched in terms perfectly in accord with Rajpoot delicacy.

In the foot-note, the author adds:

"Many romantic tales are founded on 'the gift of the Rakhi.' The author, who was placed in the enviable situation of being able to do good, and on the most extensive scale, was the means of restoring many of these ancient families from degradation to affluence. The greatest reward he could, and the only one he would, receive, was the courteous civility displayed in many of these interesting customs. He was the 'Rakhi-hand Bhai' of, and received 'the bracelet,' from, three queens of Oodipur, Boondi, and Kotah, besides Chand-Bae, the maiden sister of the Rana; as well as many ladies of rank, with whom he interchanged letters. The sole articles of 'barbaric pearl and gold,' which he conveyed from a country where he was six years supreme, are these testimonies of friendly regard. Intrinsically of no great value, they were presented and accepted in the ancient spirit, and he retains them with a sentiment the more powerful, he can no longer render them any service.

Again:

He (Aurungzeb) addresses her (queen-mother of Oodipur) as "dear and virtuous sister," and evinces much interest in her welfare. We are in total ignorance of the refined sentiment which regulates such a people—our home-bred prejudices deem them beneath inquiry; and thus indolence and self-conceit combine to deprive the benevolent of a high gratification.

The new daily, "Light," of Lahore, writes on the October 17:

"The Rakhi is an ancient and familiar token in all parts of India. In the Punjab the Rakhi (as it is called here) is still worn once every year, though its meaning has been forgotten. In the older times Rakhi or Rakhi was the token of loyalty and fidelity. If an unprotected and helpless Rajput lady appealed to a knight for succour, she tied a Rakhi on his wrist. There is a tradition in the Punjab that when Mahmud Ghaznavi invaded the country a second

time the Raja of Lahore called together all the neighbouring chiefs to his aid to repel the invader. The Panjabees of that day were filled with a fire of patriotism such as burnt in the breasts of the Greeks. Women cut off their hair to make bow-strings. Gold and silver ornaments were melted down to make weapons of war. And at that time of danger every Panjabee man or woman assumed a red Rakhi. The times are changed, but the feeling to a vow which Rakhi signifies should not be allowed to change.

'Rakhi' is derived from 'rakshya' to protect. Moslems and Christians have received the rakhi from Hindus. Brave men, of whatever nationality, in India, can not possibly object to that which is the symbol of good and brotherly feeling.

INDIANS IN THE TRANSVAAL

THE cry of Imperialism is new, it has not yet stood the test of time. Let the followers of the new school rather over-wild define they join into the unknown. We are sure some day that matter in connection with Greater Britain will have to be satisfactorily solved, and the new party in Great Britain will do well to bring to light, wisdom and fairplay in the handling of this very intricate problem. The citizens of the British Empire claim the rights and privileges of British citizenship wherever they live. A diverse population in the wide colonies of His Imperial Majesty Edward VII will not be satisfied until the colour question is eliminated altogether from all matters. We are afraid this is one of those submerged rocks where the whole question of Imperialism will knock its head. The poor Indians are in a bad way in almost all the important colonies, especially South Africa, North America, Australia. We confine our remarks to-day to the treatment of the Indians, not to speak of other Asiatics, in South Africa. Paul Kruger was much hated by the Britishers for his so-called unjust laws, and the former had to risk the most valued rights of a human race—freedom to maintain the independence of the Boers against the extravagant proposals of the foreigners there. It is painful to write that the present master is wreaking the vengeance, as it were, of the last gory war on the poor Indians, by making unjust and un-British Acts. The Indians have been unsuccessful with the authorities in the Transvaal. For a long time their sufferings have been great. It seems the breaking point has been reached. A deputation, moved by an enterprising and indefatigable, whole-hearted worker, Mr. M. K. Gandhi, has reached London to wait on the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Elgin. The Indians naturally are hopeful when they approach their ex-viceroy who had experience of the worst features of their lot during his viceroyalty in the ravages of plague and famine. Lord Elgin warned the Indians beforehand that he would have nothing to say regarding any modification of the ordinance complained of. If the powers do not move an inch to remove grievances, the parting of the ways becomes inevitable. In the case of the Indians, the only course left to them, as was urged at the last important meeting at Johannesburg, was to court imprisonment rather than oppose the provisions of an unjust law. Lord Elgin's action is certainly neither bold nor humane. True, he is in a difficult position. The self-governing colonies are free to exclude any class of persons they pleased; but surely that is not the last act in their relation with the mother country. If the Imperial connection is worth anything, it behoves the Home Government to remind the Colonies that they have to bear patiently many things. And in the give-and-take policy lies the commercial success of the Anglo-Saxon race. We trust in this broad question the self-sacrificing spirit will prevail. Not Lord Elgin alone will have to meet the demands of the deputation. Mr. Mcleay too cannot remain silent. Indian emigration has contributed largely to Natal's prosperity. We think when the question is so complicated, Lord Elgin will not wholly ignore the India Office or the Indian Government. Lord Elgin cannot so soon forget his Indian experience as to sink all broad questions in the clamour of the Colonial Government and thus raise the gigantic issues of a struggle which the present Government a few years ago feared would arise and condemned during Lord Milner's rule in the Transvaal.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam will be on tour from Thursday, the 1st November to Thursday, the 22nd November. His Honour will be accompanied by Mr. P. C. Lyon, Chief Secretary; Mrs. Lyon; Captain L. E. Dening, Private Secretary; Captain J. C. Pearce, Aid-de-Camp; and Commissioner and District Officers within their respective jurisdictions. The places to be visited are Gauhati, Tezpur, Bishnath Jorhat and Dibrugarh. From the last place trips will be made to Sadiya, Marghetita, Makum, &c. The Lieutenant-Governor's arrivals at Tezpur, Jorhat and Dibrugarh will be public.

THE first set of members of the Legislative Council of the new Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam have been appointed. The following notification, appears in the Eastern Bengal and Assam Gazette of the 20th October:

"The 19th October 1905 No. 10791C.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 45 of the Indian Councils Act 1861, read with the Proclamation published in Government of India, Home Department, Notification No. 2382, dated the 1st September 1905, the Lieutenant-Governor, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General, is pleased to nominate for his assistance in making Laws and Regulations, the gentlemen mentioned below to be members of his Council:—

Mr. H. Savage, C.S.I., I.C.S.

Mr. C. R. Marindin, I.C.S.

Mr. P. C. Lyon, I.C.S.

Mr. J. C. Arbuthnot, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Mr. L. J. Kershaw, I.C.S.

Mr. H. R. H. Cox, I.C.S.

The Hon'ble Nawab Khwaja Sulaiman Bahadur of Dacca, C.S.I.

Mihiraj, Gopi Nath Ray

Mr. R. H. Henderson, C.I.E.

Rai Dutt Chandra Deb Bahadur.

Rai Sita Nath Ray Bahadur.

Maulvi Syed Nizam Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

Mr. W. F. Cathcart.

Mr. J. Smart.

Khwaja Muhammad Asghar."

But for the Legislative Council, there would have been no new Province and new Lieutenant-Governor. The Province came into existence on the 16th October 1905. There have already been two Lieutenant-Governors, and the Legislative Council is formed one year after. The Council, again, may not meet till some time after.

THE "Bengalee" (Oct. 21) is "surprised to see Rai Sita Nath Ray Bahadur among the Councillors and" leaves "it to him to reconcile his past opposition to the Partition with his acceptance of a seat in the Legislative Council of the New Province." There is the precedent of a much higher Rai Bahadur in the action of the late Honourable Kristodas Pal. He opposed with all his might and following the Elective System in the Calcutta Municipal Act of 1876, in the Corporation, in the Legislative Council, in the British Indian Association, in the "Hindoo Patriot" and elsewhere, but as soon as the law was passed, he, as a loyal subject and respecter of law, laid down his opposition and offered himself a candidate for election.

In the present instance, the explanation, as given by the "Bengalee" of the 21st October, is that "his association with the Council of the new province does not in the smallest degree affect his attitude in regard to the partition of Bengal. He has been known to be one of the firmest and one of the most consistent opponents of the partition of Bengal; and he assures us that his attitude remains unchanged." The late Rai Bahadur was a respecter of law whatever his own convictions. The present is true to his firm convictions and obedient to law and Government.

It is reported in the "Muhammadan" that the only Mahomedan who joined in a valedictory address to Mr. Matlal Chunalil, President of the Broach Municipality, was Nawabzada Mirza Mahabub Khan, a scion of the Nawab family of Broach. A deputation of Mahomedans waited on him to

ask him to withdraw his signature. The Nawab said he could not do so, but he would not have signed if he had been consulted before.

The reason of the Mahomedan objection to the address is that the Municipality had driven a road through a Mahomedan burial ground and thus desecrated it.

Soon after, the Nawabzada's adopted daughter died, and no Mahomedan would attend the funeral ceremony. The bier also was refused. Nothing could appease the wrath of the boycotters, and the body had to be taken on a charpoy to the burial ground by hired Bhils.

The punishment, we fear, not only falls on the mourning father but also on his innocent dead daughter. If the burial ground were under the control of the virate Musulmans, would they have denied her a resting place there?

MR. Chhaganlal Lalhubhai Thanawalia, the young editor and publisher of the Anglo-Gujerati weekly "Hind Swarajya" or Indian Home Ruler, was, late on Saturday, the 25th October, ordered, by the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Bombay, to execute a bond in the sum of three hundred rupees with two sureties in the sum of three hundred rupees each, for his good behaviour for six months. He was called upon to show cause why he should not be so bound for a Gujarati article appearing in his paper of the 1st September as also for an ode which were alleged to come under sections 124A and 153A of the Indian Penal Code. In the course of the enquiry, the Magistrate, Mr. A. H. S. Aston, asked

"What is the correct meaning of 'Bande Mataram'?"

The Oriental Translator to the Bombay Government, replied:

"The literal translation is—I bow to the mother or motherland."

Magistrate: Does it refer to goddess Kali?

Translator.—It refers to goddess mother.

The Magistrate evidently wanted to establish the meaning given to the phrase by Dr. Grierson. But the Public Prosecutor, Mr. E. F. Nicholson, intervened saying—He did not want to raise any question about that.

Mr. Indrajit Kalabhoy Lalhubhai, Counsel for the defence, said—the official translation is 'Hail Motherland.'

The translator then explained—the words 'Bande Mataram' were generally used to express feelings of agitation and excitement.

In his judgment, the Magistrate expresses no opinion of his own.

It was in evidence that the journal was printed at the Napoleon Printing Press.

"From 5 to 700 copies were struck off every week. Respondent got the matter composed by his own compositors and the paper was then printed in witness's press. He charged respondent Rs. 63 per month. The paper was sold at the price of three pies."

Mr. Indrajit for the defence submitted

that the translations before the Court were merely literal translations and therefore failed to disclose the real motives underlying the article. It appeared to him that in these translations no need had been paid to metaphors, idioms and phrases. Commenting on the evidence of Sved Sham-suddin, Mr. Indrajit remarked that his demeanour in the witness box clearly showed that he was determined to say "no" to every question put by the defence, and to say "yes" to the question asked by the Public Prosecutor. He was sorry to say that witness betrayed a vindictive attitude, when he refused to admit historical facts which were well-known to all the people of India and outside India. He argued that the words "by their teaching" in the original did not mean "teaching in schools and colleges," but meant "by their example." As to the words "vayachichai" which was translated by the word "adultery," Mr. Indrajit submitted that the word had various meanings. There was a class of people amongst Hindus and Mahomedans who would apply the word, if a lady shook hands with a gentleman, or if she went out for a walk with him, or if a native gentleman dined with a European, and so forth. The word practically covered any breach of the customs prevailing among the community. The passage in question was only an attack against

the reform movement. He submitted that the passage did not come within Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code. As regards the other passages, he ended that there was nothing in them which could create discord between any two races. He then called attention to the case of *Empress vs. Kanji* decided by Justices Jardine and Ranade, and said that though the language used by the accused in that case in his poem was of a much more dangerous kind and though the poem was written at a time of great public excitement, namely, the Hindu Mahomedan riots of 1893, it was not considered seditious and the accused was acquitted.

The Magistrate in giving his decision said.—

I have no doubt on the evidence produced in the case that the respondent has disseminated or abetted the dissemination within the limits of the jurisdiction of this Court of matter the publication of which is punishable under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code. It is impossible to read the translations (Ex. G.H.B.C.) and the articles in Ex. A. with the evidence without coming to the conclusion that the respondent by the said articles attempted to promote feelings of enmity and hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects, namely, between the subjects of Indian and of English descent. It has been alleged that the case of *Empress vs. Kanji* (18 Bom. Cr. 758) governs the present proceeding, but, in my opinion, that case is easily distinguishable. The general spirit of the poem in that case was in favour of peace and reconciliation; the general spirit of the articles in the present case is, in my opinion, in favour of enmity and strife. The only doubt in my mind was whether the publication of the article amounted to publication of the matter punishable under Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code, but the fact is that the respondent in the first paragraph himself identifies the class of being whom he attacks with the rulers of the country. The fact that he refers to their measures as the measures of persons, who have no authority and whom he addresses as persons who lead a wicked life, and of whom he convicts by the report from the newspapers, is evidence which he uses to excite the passions of his hearers. Section 124 A has been broken by the respondent, provided that it is necessary for maintaining the peace that the respondent should exercise a restraint upon his language and order his words to exercise a bond in the same. The respondent with two sureties has been bound to the sum of Rs. 300 each for his good behaviour for a period of six months.

The ingenious argument of the defence Counsel fell flat on the trying Magistrate, who accepted the version of the Government translator in the absence of any other.

Light (Oct. 25) reports:

"On the 23rd instant at 1 P.M. a complaint under section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code was filed by Mr. Petman, the Junior Government Advocate, against the Editor and the Proprietor of the *Punjabee*, in the Court of Mr. Mant, the new District Magistrate of Lahore, who has issued summons against the accused persons. 25th instant has been fixed for the hearing of the case."

Again:—

"At a meeting of the India Association, Lahore, held on Tuesday evening, it was unanimously resolved that the Secretary of the Association should at once apply to the Punjab Government for sanction to prosecute the *Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore under section 153 A, Indian Penal Code, for publishing letters like 'the change of times' &c., which promote enmity and ill-will between Europeans and Indians."

THE East (October 21) has:

"Starting news from Serajunge:—

At about 3½ P.M. on Saturday the 13th instant locusts appeared here in vast multitudes. At first they were seen like a thick dark cloud on the western horizon. Soon they drew near and while descending made a very awful sound. All were at once startled and cries of despair were heard from every side. Several flocks passed beyond the Subdivisional town and instantly information was circulated that they fell on the trees of the adjoining villages and on the fields extending over many miles. Then there fell large numbers upon the trees and houses of the town. Tops of the trees were at once covered over and while hovering above so thickly-gathered and so numerous they were that the rays of the sun could scarcely find passage through them. Up to the evening they were seen coming and flying over the town.

These insects are about 4 inches in length and are of different colours—some are deeply yellow and others are black, interspersed with blue spots. The whole night they rested upon the trees and they fell on the fields.

In the morning trees appeared denuded of leaves. Roads were thickly covered with their green excreta. Early in the morning they again began to fly and went off to the north-east direction. At about 7 A.M. they descended on the vast field between the villages *Hatboyra* and *Khokaswari*, the high and tall trees of the surrounding villages not being excepted.

They remained thus for two or three hours. Old men of eighty vehemently say that they have neither heard of nor witnessed such a fearful visitation of locusts in the whole course of their lives. Very fortunately insects have done little injury to the *Amur* paddy which is surely on the verge of being reaped and is inspiring hopes of a good harvest. Kalai (pulse) and other crops are irretrievably damaged."

Lady Anne Blunt, in her "A Pilgrimage to Nejd, the Cradle of the Arab Race," writes of the locusts, thus:

"They devour everything vegetable; and are devoured by everything animal: desert larks and bustards, ravens, hawks, and buzzards. We passed to-day through flocks of ravens and buzzards, sitting on the ground gorged with them. The camels munch them in with their food, the greyhounds run snapping after them all day long eating as many as they can catch. The Bedouins often give them to their horses, and I saw a Bedouin says that this year in my tribes have nothing to eat just now but locusts and camels' milk; but the locust in some measure makes amends for being a pestilence, by doing himself consumed."

We read:

The current number of 'The West China Mission News' has an interesting account of the 'Festival of Bright Eyes,' as it is termed in the city of Peking. It is held annually from the 15th to the 20th of the Chinese fourth moon (corresponding to the full moon in the north-east corner of the city), and is regarded as the greatest festival of the year. The occasion is a gala time for everybody, and thousands of people attend, a large number of whom worship at the temple, sixty-five in number, but more especially the Goddess of Bright Eyes. This is a small gilt idol which is supposed to have power to prevent or cure eye diseases. The worshippers burn candles and incense before the idol and kneeling before it, cash, paper and paper spectacles are burnt as offerings. Some who have been cured adorn the idol with red veils. Potentially among the other idols worshipped at this time is the old grinning medicine god, whose shaggy coat of paint is nearly all rubbed off from the stomach, feet and eyes, by worshippers afflicted in these parts, and who thus have to effect a cure. The temple is packed and the hillside covered with people. Fakirs, peepshows vendors of candles and incense and refreshment stands line most of the roadway up the hill, and abound in the temple premises. Beggars of every degree of wretchedness, real and assumed, call out to the passers-by for alms. Before the special gods of this festival priests pound gongs and count beads while the people are worshipping. The priests, on economy bent, every few minutes collect the half-consumed candles to store them away for future use. Mendicant priests receive contributions from those who wish thus to gain merit.

Herzog, in his Religious Encyclopælia, enumerates 38 diseases of the Bible. In the Christian Church, Saints as Healers number many more. St. Clara is invoked for sore eyes as also St. Oulia and St. Juliana.

SIMLA, the 15th October, 1906. No. 1219.—The Honourable Sir Arundel Tagg Arundel, K.C.S.I., has resigned his office as an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India, with effect from the 15th October 1906.

No. 1220.—A vacancy having occurred in the office of an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India by the resignation of the Honourable Sir Arundel Tagg Arundel, K.C.S.I., His Majesty the King, Emperor of India, has been graciously pleased to appoint the Honourable Sir Harvey Adamson, Kt., C.S.I., to be an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India.

The Honourable Sir Harvey Adamson has, on this day

taken upon himself the execution of his office under the usual salute.

THE 15th October, 1906, No. 1390-A.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900 (VI of 1900), the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Fox, Barrister-at-Law, officiating Chief Judge of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, to be Chief Judge, in the vacancy caused by the appointment of the Hon'ble Sir Harvey A. Lamson, Kt., C. S. I., to be a member of the Council of the Governor General.

The Governor General in Council is also pleased, in exercise of the power conferred by section 5 of the same Act, to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hartnoll of the Indian Civil Service at present officiating as a Judge of the Chief Court, to be a Judge of that Court *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Fox.

BARODA, 16th October.—At the sitting of the Baroda Sessions to-day Sirdar Singh Joswarsingh was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for cheating the Baroda State by impersonating the Maharaja of Jodhpur under circumstances which have been already reported, whereby he received the hospitality of the Baroda State, and was only discovered to be an impostor on leaving for Bombay.

JUNAGADH, 17th October.—The Commission reassembling to-day Mr. Sukia, addressing the Court, observed that the Vazier's evidence made a great part of his argument unnecessary, and he expressed satisfaction at the step taken by the Commissioners, in the interests of Justice, in securing the Vazier's evidence. Counsel remarked that the Commissioners had not left out any course which might clear up the accusation against Purshotam Rai, and which would secure him fair and impartial Justice. In order to prove the charges against the accused a great deal of evidence of accounts was adduced, and that evidence, counsel submitted was amply confirmed by the answers to the interrogatories given by the Vazier Sahib, and the conclusions to be drawn from the documentary and oral evidence would be beyond the pale of doubt. The course which counsel proposed to follow would be to discuss the evidence in the light of the answers to the interrogatories so fairly and so clearly given by the Vazier Sahib, and he proceeded to do so.

Junagadh, 23rd October.—The Special Commissioners, Messrs. J. Gazdar and Ghandy, appointed to enquire into the charges of criminal breach of trust and embezzlement in respect of Rs. 1,53,000 laid against Purshotumrai Sunderji Zala, ex Naib Dewan of Junagadh, have found Purshotumrai guilty of inducing the Vazier Sahib Bahudinbhoj under false pretences to part with the money, viz., that the money was required for the betterment of and for advancing the interests of the State. The Commissioners submitted their report to His Highness the Nawab through Mirza Abbas Ali Baig, Dewan of Junagadh, on Saturday last. In their report the Commissioners, after discussing the evidence at length, lay stress on that of the Vazier Sahib.

His Highness the Nawab passed orders on the report of the Commissioners yesterday. His Highness concurs with the conclusions arrived at by the Commissioners, and holds that the charges have been proved not only by documentary evidence, but by the oral evidence of the Vazier Sahib which is clear and unequivocal. He has, therefore, ordered that of the immoveable property owned by Mr. Purshotumrai in Junagadh, property of the value of Rs. 1,53,000, be confiscated and that the accused must pay a fine of Rs. 25,000. In accordance with the above order property belonging to Purshotumrai in Junagadh city which includes several houses was confiscated yesterday. Defendant's solicitors have sent in a protest to the effect that the Commission was not a properly constituted tribunal.

THE LATE MR. C. B. CLARKE.

Mr. Charles Baron Clarke, F. R. S. whose death occurred on August 25, was the eldest son of Mr. Turner Poulter Clarke of Andover. He was born in 1832, and received his education at

King's College School, London and at Trinity and Queens' Colleges Cambridge. In 1856 he was bracketed third wrangler, and from 1857 to 1865 he was matematical tutor at Queens' College. During his career at Cambridge he interested himself greatly in political economy, and was one of a brilliant series of advanced young Liberal politicians to which belonged his great friends, the late Mr. Henry Fawcett, Sir Leslie Stephen and Sir John Rigny.

In 1866 he accepted from the Indian Government an appointment in the Educational Department, first as a professor in the Government College, Calcutta, and afterwards as an Inspector of Schools. The duties of the latter post necessitated numerous journeys (many of which he, from choice, performed on foot) in the least known parts of Eastern Bengal and in the Khasia Hills. The opportunities which these deliberate journeys afforded him of familiarizing himself with the vegetation of those remote parts of the Indian Empire revived in him the passion for botanical work which had shown itself when, as a young man, he published a list of the plants of Andover. Thenceforth he devoted himself almost exclusively to the study of systematic botany as his life work only very occasionally writing papers on geographical and anthropological subjects and on Bengali music. During a prolonged illness he wrote a little volume, entitled "Speculations on Political Economy," which was his last non-botanical work. He acted as Superintendent of the Botanic Garden at Calcutta for part of the years 1863 to 1871 and, some years later, he spent four years at Kew aiding Sir Joseph Hooker in preparing the second and third volumes of the "Flora of British India." During the Indian part of his career Mr. Clarke published monographs of the Indian Cyrtandreas and Commelinus an account of the Indian Compositae, and a review of the terms of Northern India; while he earned the gratitude of all workers at Indian botany by issuing a new and very cheap edition of Roxburgh's "Flora Indica" which had become rare and costly.

In 1887 Mr. Clarke finally retired from the Indian Educational Service and settled at Kew; and in the Herbarium there he worked for 19 years as a volunteer, never having desired any pecuniary reward for his services to science. The main piece of botanical work which he had set before himself to be done there was a monograph of the Sedges of the world. This family is, chiefly from the immense number of its species, a very difficult one. Mr. Clarke's knowledge of them was known to be profound, and, as one result of this, collections from botanists all over the world were sent to him for identification. But besides his work on the Sedges, he elaborated many important families for the "Flora Capensis," and for the "Flora of Tropical Africa," while he con-

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Secretary as soon as possible.

tributed a large number of papers to the Linnean and Royal Societies. His industry was extraordinary. The first man to arrive at the Herbarium in the morning, he was usually the last to leave it in the evening. But while full of his own special work, he was always ready to help any other worker. Mr. Clarke had a charming personality. He was amiable and unselfish and modest yet extremely versatile. By his death British systematic botany sustains an almost irreparable loss. Mr. Clarke was a fellow of the Royal Linnean, Geological, and Geographical Societies and of the Linnean he was for some time president.—The Calcutta U. M.

THE GODDESS DURGA AND HER RETINUE.

Sir—In your article on the Modern Hindus, you rightly describe the Hindu race as a dominant and exclusive one. This finds confirmation in the configuration of their principal goddess of worship—Durga. The Goddess Durga not only represents a mythological abstraction—the creative energy, but a National Ideal. She is the visible representation of the Indian Nationalism. If Englishmen wanted to have 'Britannia' represented in marble or clay—what would be the shape of the model? Would it not be like the Goddess Durga—a shining and perfect female form, seated on a lion? Who knows that the British lion is not a relic of the old Aryan Goddess "Singhabahini" the Goddess of War?

In Bengal alone, the Goddess Durga is worshiped in the full glory of her complete retinue, and a most cursory view of the figures confirm the idea that she symbolises the advent of the dominant Aryan element midst aboriginal India. The goddess is represented as fighting with a black figure—a figure sturdy and defiant whose destruction she seeks by every means that she can command. First she is unconsciously spearing him in the chest; secondly her lion is gnawing at his right arm and thirdly she has got him tightly in the folds of her cobra, which she holds by the tail. Thus, indeed, is the modern Kafir or the Savage Tibetan made to kiss the dust before victorious Britannia;—the threefold modern implements being the maxim gun—the bayonet and the sword. But, mark. The goddess is not frowning. No lines of anger mar the placid beauty of her charming forehead. On the other hand a smile or rather a look of pity hovers about her lips. Is the goddess so stony-hearted that the sight of carnage fills her heart with joy? No! She knows that in her victorious train she brings (1) learning, represented by the white Goddess Saraswati, who stands by her side. Behold!—the College at Khartoum rising on the ashes of the Mahdhi! Secondly she brings material prosperity, represented by the Goddess Luktshmi. Compare India, of our day, with what she was in the days of the Mahratta free-booters, dacoits and thugs.

Well, the above is the serious aspect of the figured symbols. But the humorous element is not also wanting. The result of the learning implanted on the soil—is seen in the figure of the Godling Kartic—the veritable Indian beau ideal. He is seated on his showy peacock and is altogether a foppish, vain-glorious god. He is sometimes arrayed in pyjamas and coat and is then known as the Military Kartic, but oftener, he appears in nicely folded dhoti and chudder and is called Babu Kartic. He is a great favourite with the ladies, specially ladies who are barren and who make special offerings to him, to be blessed with children. With the Brodrick cap and the khaki uniform, he would look better—only he must give up his obsolete bows and arrows and shoulder his magazine.

The other godling is the God "Gonesh"—the elephant-headed one. He is the result of material prosperity implanted on the soil of India. You notice his proboscis and wonder what it might mean? Well, it is only the exaggerated nose. Is not the nose the distinctive sign of genius. Did not Napoleon detect his men of talents by the nose? The God Ganesh is meant for the prosperous man of business and his portly figure and stupendous nose unmistakably proclaim him to be the shrewd and successful man of business. This god has got, for his carrier, the mouse, a creature unavoidably associated with the warehouse and has, for his spouse, the plantain tree, which is the most useful plant in creation, as every part of it is of some use to the Indian. He may thus, be said to be literally wedded to utility.

G. C. M.

Police Court Bar Library, Sept. 19.

—The Englishman, October 20.

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JAIL.

INDUSTRIES & PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

Sir,—Now that the Government of India, after a lapse of about twenty years, have been moved to again take up the question of the competition between Jail Industries and private enterprise, I, as a manufacturer myself, hope that you will give me an opportunity of stating certain aspects of the problem which I believe represent more or less the views of most private Capitalists in India.

Provincial Governments have once more been asked to make this matter the subject of detailed report, but it remains to be seen to what extent they will ascertain the opinions of those who are mainly interested. The opinions of Jail Superintendents will, no doubt, be collated, but it is possible that the glories and triumphs of jail commercialism will very considerably warp the judgment and prejudice the conclusions of these officials. Most sensible men are agreed that genuine instructive industry in a jail ought to be infinitely better in its aggregate and ultimate results than the useless turning of a crank or the working of a tread mill. Society which has the right to punish has not the right to brutalize any more than has the private individual and by the very greatness of its authority it is compelled to carry on a steady programme of progress and reform. In the pursuit of this ideal, prison labour in India has now been organized on lines which are nevertheless productive of gross injustice in another direction. I refer mainly as a glaring instance of the injustice to which I allude, to the use of steam machinery in Jails. On this aspect of the problem the Government of India says: "As regards the use of steam machinery the Government of India consider that it is not necessary that a Jail should purposely handicap itself by the use of obsolete or inferior machinery. In the case, too, of a jail press or similar institution which works solely for the Government there can be no objection on economical grounds to the installation of steam machinery on a large scale. One important aspect of this question however, is the necessity for preserving the penal element in jail industries "When it is proposed to lay down steam machinery for the first time in any jail the objects of the installation and the possibility of its interfering with private enterprise must be very thoroughly examined."

Now, I maintain that in a jail the installation of any steam machinery is, in the first place, incompatible with the preservation of the penal element. The hygienic ideals which govern jails will not allow of the prisoner working long hours; he works in well ventilated rooms, he retires to rest early, and if a machine does all the hard work it is clear he only does the looking on. Where, I ask, does the penal element come in? Secondly, the use of steam machinery increases many fold the hardship and injustice experienced by free labour outside the Jail walls, in so much that it very greatly increases the quantity of goods thrown into competition with it—without providing work for a proportionately greater number of convicts—by which I mean that, aided by steam power, 100 convicts can possibly throw upon the market the output of say 500 men working without such assistance, and thirdly, the convict, after working for years with steam driven machinery, leaves the Jail but little better fitted to earn an honest living outside than when he entered it. The only places where the knowledge he may have acquired would have any market value would be in mills and Factories employing similar machinery—these are comparatively few and certainly not to be found in every village—whereas had he been taught a handy industry during the period of his incarceration he would have stood a much greater chance of putting it to practical use on his restoration to freedom.

It is, I consider, possible for a man to work a power loom all his life and yet never know how to make cloth on a hand loom—in the same way that one may be able to work a sewing machine and yet never learn to stitch by hand.

Government— whilst on the one hand stating that "Jails do not exist for the purpose of making profit," and that "Jails are not bound to show an actual net profit on the working of their industries . . ." very paradoxically profess to be particularly solicitous that a jail should not purposely "handicap itself" by the use of obsolete or inferior machinery. But who, may I ask, is the better off—the honest village weaver with his hand loom and simple appliances, or the convict at his steam driven power loom where he has practically little to do but stand and watch for broken threads—the former weaving labouriously 5 yards a day, the latter rolling off 48 yds. Upon whom is the handicap in this instance? Yet the State is apparently ready to use the taxes it gathers to enter into competition with these very men. A pretty doctrine of humanitarian penology this! No, all steam machinery and labour saving appliances worked by steam should be abolished from jails. There is ample room for a diversity of labour without having recourse to the latest "invention."

Jails are constructed to confine and punish criminals for their misdeeds—they are emphatically not constructed to be manufacturing centres.

Now as regards contracts, surely jails should not speculate, i. e., contract for a fixed price far into the future. I could cite an instance where a jail tendered for a contract for cloth to be made during a period of years at a rate which must in consequence of the rise in price of the raw material have resulted in absolute loss. Yet I have not the slightest doubt that the energetic Jail Superintendent was regarded as a kind of economical miracle by Government; but manufacturers could perform miracles of this kind every day in the week had they not to pay dividends and stand or fall by their balance sheet.

The theory of Jail industrialism having a reformatory effect upon the prisoner is a very beautiful one, but I am quite convinced that in many cases it quite fails to justify the praises owed upon it. We may admit that ignorance of a handicraft may be a predisposing cause of crime, but the mere knowledge of a handicraft is not sufficient of itself to prevent a man from falling into criminal courses. How many, I would ask, of our Indian prisoners on coming out of jail ever continue to carry on or apply or use the industrial knowledge they may have gained within the prison walls. Has any one any doubts on this point?

The following is an experience which happened to me. When King Edward VII. was crown prince, a few years ago, some thousands of long term prisoners were sent from England to the Heads of the various Jail Departments in India, offering to give steady permanent employment to any number of trained men they could find in the colonies. Now what the results. Not a single man has been even employed by any of the officials to whom I wrote. The only reason I have heard of from two Jail Heads who offered to employ a few of them is that on each to me of I made it worth their while to do so, they would admit that a few comparatively unskilled men could be employed, but that the necessary cost of the system which is a main feature of the Indian Jail system is too great.

The Jail Authorities, however, by my means, content with their policy of a formal system of employment, have raised in the price for the goods made. Every one is known Jail warden turned into a speculator, and a few of them from house to

house hawking jail made goods. The goods being sold by convicts with a guard of Police in charge! An action of this kind is a scandal and a disgrace to the Administration.

Jail tenders for contracts are another scandal. At the opening of Public Tenders their rates are not read out, and consequently they often secure contracts at an unknown price. The advertisements for these "Public Tenders" are often in matters of form—baggy invitations and a rank deception. The Home Department in its letter of 31st August last has gone largely into the question of Jail industries in connection with the public consuming Departments. It has been suggested that the consuming Departments should revert to the principles laid down in 1882 and ask the Jails to tender in the first instance. Tenders would then be called for in the open market and the contract would be given to Jails only if the price quoted by it was lower than all other tenders or equal to the lowest.

An opinion prevails that the principle that jail labour should be employed mainly for supplying Public Departments is a sound one. When they do so, it is argued, questions of price and of consequence for what is lost in one section of the market is gained by another. I consider that in principle this view is correct, but a fallacy, for prison labour is not free labour. It is a direct evil. The gain to the State is not the gain to the public, is altogether his own ed by the State, done to free labour and the private manufacturers. At the same time, while a stimulus to free labour must naturally tend to the development of the industry, improvement of skill in the employment of free capital and free labour is essential to the progress of a household industry among the free workers of a community, the employment of jail labour is a stimulus to the State and not to the healthy symptoms of expansion and development. So impossible are our Governors to understand the value of jail labour on these and other points, that they will not allow this unfair competition a chance of winning a battle of depression in the free labour market, or require the State to be applied to them to do so. It is high time too Government of India followed suit.

It may be asked why, then, I have to point out the existing condition of things. Well, firstly, abolition of the existing power in all Jails. This will require the abolition of Jails. Secondly, you consider it is wrong that the majority in the country are allowed to be a sort of sentenced criminals to indefinitely long terms of imprisonment. There are many petty offences that might well be dealt with by whipping. It is no uncommon spectacle in our Indian Courts to witness the individual who is known as a "bold offender" sentenced to seven, ten, fifteen years of imprisonment for a petty offence. The value of everything he has stolen in his previous convictions may often amount to only a few rupees, and yet the taxpayer is practically asked to feed, clothe, and keep such a man for the remainder of his natural life. In the issue of the 12th September I see that Mr. Labouchere proposes this absurd tendency among our Magistrates and Judges. He quotes: "Nga Po Hlon was arraigned on a charge of stealing a milch goat, belonging to Sma Ah. The jury unanimously found the accused guilty, who on admitting three previous convictions, was sentenced to transportation for life."

When such sentences are passed—is it any wonder that our jails are so well populated, and thirdly, I would suggest and here I fancy I shall have the support of Government, that wholesale dealers and manufacturers should always have the first option of purchase for jail made goods. The Home Department letter says: "It might be arranged that jails should not sell directly to the public subject to any exceptions that might be decided on, but should dispose of their surplus stock to wholesale dealers." I say have no exceptions, and let the wholesale dealer or manufacturer always have the first call. He would then be able to buy all jail produce himself and retain the business in his own goods in his own hands.

The three means I have suggested—

- (1) The abolition of steam power,
- (2) reduction of the jail population, and
- (3) let jail labour be utilized in the interests of private enterprise and not against it, would, I believe, do a great deal to mitigate the evils under which free labour often has to fight an uphill battle.

The whole of the question is one deserving the very careful attention of new Minister of Commerce and Industry, and I hope he will make a good fight for those whose interest he has a seat on the Council.

W. G. BAVIS.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smiths Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and therein a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corrie K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 20th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of a harassing official duties in English Calcutta, one finds either time or opportunity to pay a careful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chandra Mookerjee, the well-known Bengali journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No week-day paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindustan" in its prime, enjoyed under Kishore Chandra, a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an appropriate idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India" (Bombay) September 3rd, 1905.

For much of his biographical material that issue, so many from the press, biography is needed. Had the biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," and indeed, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was so early first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher position than they did, and looked at from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understood it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this biased biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes in the English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward without Oriental incoherence or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or redressing his anger.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The "Pioneer," (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

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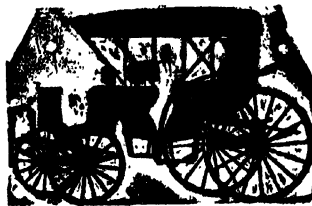
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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1906. WHOLE NO. 1,245.

THE JOURNEY OF THE THOUGHT.

BY ROSE R. ANTHON.

A Loving Soul, detached from selfful gain,
Gazed through the marvels of the Era's morn,
And heard the cry that came from hearts of men,
And in that hour a Thought to him was born.

From out the depths wherefrom the ages spring,
Where Time from out Eternity is brought,
Where swirling worlds evolve from flaming stars,
From out that mighty source the Thought was wrought.

Poised on the wings of its immortal Self,
Clad in the halo of its sinless birth,
Crowned with a potency of that Great Soul,
The Thought went forth to bless all with its worth.

With burst of song it on its journey sped,
With plumage spread it beat its shining way,
It flashed like sun upon the quivering air,
And left a glory on each passing day.

And all the world gazed at the beauteous Thought,
As faintly from afar its outlines stood,
And prayed that they might hug it to their breast,
This Thought Immortal of Love's Brotherhood.

So fair it shone from out the distant lures,
That monarch of great lands and man of God,
And woman frail and youth with eager zeal,
All hailed the living cause that loomed abroad.

But when it drew close to the monarch's side,
Unfolded eagerly its mission high,
The listener answered, "Nay, that cannot be,
Then were each subject even great as I."

Next to the House of God the great Thought came
With message sweet to him who worshipped there,
" 'Tis not for me," said he, "to follow thee,
'Twere madness quite, I must about my prayer."

Then to a woman's faltering hope it came
And gleamed an instant, waking all her heart,
"Oh, great art thou, stay close to me, O Thought,
And let me dream and see how fair thou art."

Then all undaunted to the youth it came
Whose burning heart had drawn it from afar,
But lo, the straining eye cognized it not,
Quoth he, "Begone, thou dost my musings mar."

And so it passed from man to other men---

But few would have the blessing that it brought,
Yet, hungry, all the souls still knelt and prayed
For that they would not see in that great Thought.

So aeons passed and aeons came and slept,
And once again appeared that wondrous Thought,
Shorn of its brightness, all its aspect changed,
Before the Parent Soul where it was wrought.

Its garments stained and frayed, in tatters hung,
Its wings clog-clipt, and all its radiance gone,
Its breast harassed by the adverse winds,
Its potency still there, but not its song.

"O Soul!" it said, "Conceived by Thee from prayers
Wrung from complaining hearts of fellowmen,
Sent forth in deep desire mankind to serve,
Battered but strong, I come to Thee again:

"For few there are who knew me or themselves,
And fewer still who know wherefor they pray,
And less are they who know their prayer fulfilled,
And more who thrust that answered prayer away.

"Truth! Truth!" they cry, but cannot bear the glance
That sweeps from out the soul elusive haze,
'Love! Love! they pray---' The Reign of Brotherhood,
But turn from Love unto Life's whirling maze.

"And thus it is these plaintive, praying ones
Know not the potencies of their own soul,
Nor yet the wealth abounding in their path
O'er which they blindly leap and miss their goal.

"Long was my journey, but it was not vain,
Some heard the song that I was born to sing,
And some with feeble hands debarred my way,
And drew a plume from out my mighty wing.

"And they that bear my plume shall wave it high,
And they that caught the song the strain shall swell
Till seeing eyes shall waken hearts to know
That God is all and all in God doth dwell."

--The Light of India, No. 1 October, 1906.

THE VICEROY'S TOUR. STATE BANQUET AT SRINAGAR.

Srinagar, (Kashmir), Nov. 9.

On the 8th instant, their Excellencies, family and Staff, accompanied by Sir Francis Younghusband and Sir Louis Dane, and Raja Sir Amar Singh, left by carriage for Hokarsar Lake, 8 miles from Srinagar, for a duck shoot. Here they were met by H. H. the Maharaja, Colonel Ward and Mr. Blunt. The party then embarked in small boats and took up their places, which had been marked out in the jheel. It was a most remarkable sight. When the first shot was fired, thousands of duck, teal, etc., getting up. Shooting continued until 2 p.m., when lunch was taken, each gun having been provided with his luncheon and his boat, so as to prevent the jheel being disturbed by boats constantly crossing. At about 2.45 p.m. shooting began again, and continued until 4.30 p.m. The bag for His Excellency and Staff amounted to over 800 duck. Lord Francis Scott, A. D. C. beat the record, getting 163 to his own gun. His Excellency came next. The total bag for the whole day, counting some guns who were in small jheels outside, was over 1,500, a record for Kashmir. In the evening a banquet to over 100 people was given by H. H. the Maharaja in the banquet hall at the palace, in honour of his Excellency the Viceroy's visit, at which his Excellency the Viceroy, and H. H. the Maharaja spoke. In the afternoon a display of fireworks was witnessed from the veranda outside the hall. To-day at 2 p.m. His Excellency and party left privately by carriage for Baramulla, the original programme of going down by boat having to be abandoned owing to there being so little water in the river.

H. H. THE MAHARAJA'S SPEECH.

H. H. the Maharaja after the State Banquet spoke as follows :—

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen :—

Before I perform the pleasing duty of asking you to drink to the health of His Excellency the Viceroy, I cannot but give expression to the feelings of happiness and pride which have been engendered in me by the kind visit which his Excellency has been pleased to pay to the summer capital of my State. I feel happy because his Excellency's visit affords me the opportunity so devoutly wished for of approaching His Most Gracious Majesty, The King-Emperor, through his august representative, and assuring His Majesty of the ties of the most unflinching devotion and steadfast loyalty which bind me to the throne of Great Britain. I am at the same time proud because I feel that to Kashmir has been awarded the distinction of being selected as the State which should be the first to receive a visit from His Excellency after his assuming charge of his high office. It is no wonder then that I should feel supremely happy on the occasion such as this. But my happiness is doubly augmented by the additional honour which has been conferred on me by Her Excellency, Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot gracing Kashmir with their presence. Her Excellency's grace of condescension added to her charm of manner and amiableness of disposition, have poured sweetness over every place or institution which has felt the influence of her presence, and I cannot sufficiently thank their Excellencies for the gratification they have been the means of imparting to me. Ladies and Gentlemen I would be wanting in frankness if I omitted to tell you how deeply impressed, I have been by this visit of His Excellency as it has afforded to me the opportunity of realising how deep seated is the sympathy which his Excellency feels for me and my subjects of all creeds and classes, and how absorbing is the interest which his Excellency feels in everything that is calculated to advance the prosperity and promote the happiness of the country which providence has committed to my care. I take it as a marked indication of this kindly consideration towards me that I have been favoured with a Resident of eminent abilities and world-wide reputation in the person of my honoured friend and well wisher, Colonel Sir Francis Younghusband, whose valuable advice and sympathy have already proved and will, I hope for a long time yet to come, be of immense benefit to me in the work of administration. Ladies and gentlemen, I need scarcely assure you how great is the advantage I hope will accrue to the State by his Excellency visiting Kashmir and making himself personally acquainted with its peculiar circumstances at a time when schemes of vast bearing on the economic condition of the country are under consideration. I will not detain you ladies and gentlemen any longer I will conclude by giving expression to my hope that in the midst of the arduous duties of his

high office the remembrance of their sojourn in the valley, and now ladies and gentlemen, I would ask you to drink to the health and happiness of his Excellency the Viceroy, coupled with that of Her Excellency. His Excellency has had some cause for being satisfied with his visit to the State and that I hope the meagre report that their Excellencies have had will carry with them happy recollections of their visit. And now ladies and gentlemen I ask you to drink to the health of His Excellency and Lady Minto, and I have no doubt that you will all respond to the toast with cordiality and enthusiasm.

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH

Your Highness, Ladies and gentlemen, I am greatly appreciated the more than cordial terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself and all you have so kindly said of her Excellency and my daughters. I cannot but feel how fortunate we have been to be able to visit Kashmir so soon after our arrival in India, and to have been able to marvel at its universal scenery under the guidance of your Highness. I can assure your Highness we shall never forget the magnificence of your hospitality or the luxurious comfort of the beautiful camp you had prepared for us in your lovely valleys, glowing with all the brilliant tints of autumn. We shall never forget the courtesy of your Highness' ministers and the universal attention we have met with throughout our tour. We shall return to India full of happy memories, but your Highness, I have visited Kashmir not only as a guest upon whom you have showered your hospitality, but as the representative of the King-Emperor. I cannot only convey to His Majesty your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the throne of Great Britain, but can testify to the able interest and care your Highness is bestowing upon the government of your State, and the welfare of its people by your Highness' kindness. I have been able to see something of your excellently managed State hospital, whilst Lady Minto has been much impressed by the admirable management of the other hospital.

She has had the opportunity of visiting your museum, the examples of native industry, and your great silk factory have been full of interest for me, I have seen something of your State Schools at Srinagar and in the many villages through which we have passed and you have enabled me to make myself acquainted with that village Government, which is practically the foundation of your administration. I have had the great pleasure of inspecting the troops which your Highness has so patriotically contributed towards the defence of the empire. I venture very heartily to congratulate Sir Amar Singh, on the efficiency of those troops in whom he takes so great an interest. The duties thrown upon them for guards and escorts have, I know, been heavy during our visit and I hope Sir Amar will tell them from me of my appreciation of the smartness with which they have turned out on all occasions. Your Highness may be proud of the fact that your troops share directly in the defence of the frontier, a fact which brings me into full accord with the wish expressed to me by Sir Amar Singh, that Your Highness' Mountain Batteries should possess the newest pattern of gun, the tom, screw guns supplied to His Majesty's Indian Army. They may not be immediately available, but I can assure Your Highness that I will not disregard the eventual supply of them to Kashmir, I also feel how fortunate I have been in meeting your Highness' feudatory Chiefs from the Gilgit Frontier.

I perceive I am the first Viceroy who has been able to do so, and I value highly the opportunity your Highness has given me of making myself personally acquainted with them and seeing for myself the evidence of their loyalty and friendship. Your Highness, Kashmir has the promise of a brilliant future before her and I congratulate you on the possession of a Resident in Sir Francis Younghusband whose distinguished ability will I know be so heartily devoted to the assistance of your State. The capabilities of Kashmir are becoming every day more evident, you have already before you a great electric scheme, a railway scheme, irrigation proposals and agricultural development generally which I am sure the experimental farm, which I had the opportunity of opening, will do much to further. I wish Kashmir all prosperity and success and I hope that perhaps it may be possible for Lady Minto and myself to return here again some day to witness the realization of the great undertakings now in their infancy and to renew the friendship I hope we have made in this beautiful country. I will now ask you ladies and gentlemen to drink to a toast in which I know you will all most cordially join, the health of our hospitable host the Maharaja of Kashmir.

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MR. MACFADYEN'S SUICIDE.

London, Oct. 21.

Dr. Wynn Westcott held an inquest, at the Shoreditch Court, on Patrick Macfadyen, aged sixty-five, a banker and merchant, lately residing at Bedford-square, Bloomsbury, who, under circumstances already reported, was found dead at the Old-street Station of the City and South London Railway on Saturday.

Dr. Allan Macfadyen, of Dane-gardens, Hampstead, identified the body as that of his brother, who carried on business at Winchester House, City, and was associated with Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., of Madras. His firm stopped payment on Saturday. He was a healthy man, and carried on his own business up to the last.

The Coroner: Had he ever threatened to take his life?—Not to my knowledge.

Witness added that having only returned from abroad about ten days ago, he had not seen his brother for three months. He did not know that he was in any business trouble, but had heard that there was a communication to some other person to that effect.

Mr. Ernest Wallis, manager to Messrs. P. Macfadyen and Co., stated that he saw the deceased soon after ten o'clock on Saturday morning at the office. He appeared greatly worried about business. He had a very heavy strain on him, but witness did not suppose he would take his life. The strain had existed for some time. On Saturday it was decided by witness that the firm should stop payment.

The Coroner: You decided?—Yes, under legal advice. Witness added that he went from the office about 10-30 a.m. on urgent business of the firm, and on returning found Mr. Macfadyen had gone. His manner was very strange in the morning, and witness did not know what to make of the position. He had urged him over the telephone not to open business at all that morning, but Mr. Macfadyen instructed witness to open as usual. Witness stopped payment as soon as he saw deceased's letter (handed to the coroner.) The letter was read by witness, the coroner being unable to decipher it. It ran:

"October 20.—Dear Mr. Wallis—Enclosed from A. and Co. (Arbuthnot and Co., Madras) is the last straw. I suppose we must put down the catastrophe to the endeavour to keep Arbuthnot and Co., going. Wills (solicitor) will advise you.—Yours, P. M."

The inclosure in the letter was a telegram in code from Arbuthnot and Co., Madras, the translation of which was: "Cannot remit; no funds; money still going out. We must stop payment on Monday."

The letter, continued the witness, was found on an office desk, as was another letter to a lady (name not mentioned), which had been handed to her. During the week witness had said to deceased: "You won't desert us, will you? Do your best and we will work with you, but don't desert us." Mr. Macfadyen replied, "We will see."

Harvey Barker, inspector at Old-street Station, City and South London Railway, gave evidence as to the finding of the mutilated body fifteen yards along the tunnel.

The Coroner remarked that it was open for the jury to return a verdict of *lelo-de-se*. Did the legal representatives of the relatives wish to tender any further evidence as to Mr. Macfadyen's state of mind? The coroner added, "You don't produce the lady he wrote to or the widow?"

A Solicitor; The widow, I believe, is in Australia.

Mr. Edwin Max Konstan, a retired Civil Servant and barrister-at-law, said he found the deceased much changed in appearance and manner lately. All his old, brisk, cheery manner had gone, and witness was greatly shocked at his appearance last Friday week.

After medical evidence had been given, the jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

THE ARBUTHNOT FAILURE.
CREDITORS' MEETING.

Madras, Nov. 11.

A largely attended meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., resident in Madras and the mofussil was held yesterday evening in Triplicane, Madras, with Dewan Bahadur K. Krishnasawmy Rao, late Dewan of Travancore, in the chair. In his opening speech he complained that the firm had not done anything to clear up the mystery of the crash or publish a true account of their financial position. Mr. V. Krishnasawmy Iyer, a leader of the Madras native bar, moved: that this meeting of creditors of the late firm of Arbuthnot and Co., is of opinion that two gentlemen of a representative character should be chosen by the creditors of the said firm as special assignees of the estate and effects of the said firm and of the partners thereof, and that the Committee set in Insolvency should be moved to give an account of the said firm.

the holding of a meeting of creditors at an early date for the election of special assignees by the creditors, and also for an order directing the Official Assignee not to sell any of the properties of the insolvent firm or to incur any expenditure, in connection with the insolvents' estate, except for emergent purposes, pending the appointment of the special assignees. He pointed out that Messrs. Macfadyen and Co., were only an alias of Arbuthnot's and that under the English law of insolvency the assets in India would go to make the dividend of the creditors in England also. They had, therefore, to reckon with the English creditors also, in calculating what they could get out of the assets of the estate.

Next the following resolution was adopted: that for carrying out the above resolution and also to watch the interest of all creditors of the firm and take all such steps on their behalf as may be considered advisable to safeguard their interests, a Committee be appointed with power to add to their number. The Committee was, among other things, to collect evidence required and to find out the true nature and extent of the assets and liabilities of the firm.

The next resolution carried authorized the Committee to levy a quarter per cent. on each creditor for necessary expenses.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, November 17, 1906.

THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

THE Bengal Legislative Session opened here on Saturday last when a number of important questions was asked, and two important bills were introduced. Before the proceedings commenced, Sir Andrew Fraser referred in feeling terms, to the death of Babu Nolin Behari Sircar paying a deserving tribute to the memory of the deceased. His Honor closed his speech thus: "I am sure that every member of this Council will concur with me when I give expression to our deep regret at the loss of our friend and late colleague; and I am sure also that the Council will desire that I should communicate the expression of our sympathy with his widow and children and his aged mother in the sore bereavement which they have sustained." Then followed a volley of questions by the different non-official Indian members. Mr. Syed Sharfuddin drew the attention of the Government to a Bombay Government Resolution on under-trial prisoners to the effect that Magistrates should as a rule and as far as possible see that these prisoners of the juvenile class were not unnecessarily detained, that their cases were speedily disposed of, and that the male under-trial prisoners under the age of 18 were separated from other prisoners. Mr. Richardson, replying to Mr. Sharfuddin, said that enquiries would be made with a view to adopting the action taken by the Bombay Government. Mr. Bertram elicited from Mr. Carlyle that the Calcutta Improvement scheme was still under consideration, and that Mr. K. G. Gupta would in every probability be for some months longer on special duty in connection with the Bengal fisheries. After Mr. Bertram, Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose asked as many as 7 questions relating to the Principalship of the Presidency College. This matter has been engaging the attention of the public for some time. There are some who would have Mr. Prothero in the post. There are others who consider him unfit, and would have Mr. Little. Government has appointed neither Mr. Prothero nor Mr. Little, but Mr. James to be the permanent Principal. Mr. Little is officiating at present. Mr. Richardson replied to Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose. He would not institute a comparison between Mr. Prothero and Mr. Little, but he would say that Mr. Prothero

did weigh the two gentlemen in the balance, and found Mr. Prothero wanting in qualifications necessary for the post. Mr. Richardson has given such a high certificate of Mr. Little's abilities that it ought to be practically impossible for Government to appoint any other man to the post so long of course as Mr. Little would be available for it. Referring to Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose's somewhat pointed allusion to newspapers, Mr. Richardson observed, "As regards the newspapers, they do not perhaps afford the best means of discussing an entirely personal issue." We do not mean to consider the remark along with the question at issue. What we should be glad to know is whether Mr. Richardson thinks that the newspapers do afford the best means of discussing broad questions and state matters. If so, and if Government agrees with Mr. Richardson, it would be a great point gained by both the press and the Government. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose's 6th question was: "Is the Government aware that all the Anglo-Bengali newspapers have regretted the supersession of Mr. Prothero and ascribed the same to his well-known attitude of sympathy towards the Indian students?" The word "all" should not certainly have been used. Mr. Richardson remarked: "The suggestion that Mr. Prothero was superseded because he was popular and enjoyed the confidence of the students is absolutely without foundation. I regret that the Hon'ble member has thought it consistent with the dignity of this place to repeat the suggestion to-day."

The Bills which were introduced were the Bengal Tenancy Act Amendment Bill, and the Local Self-Government Act Amendment Bill. The first was brought in by Mr. Carlyle, and the second by Mr. McIntosh. The objects of the first-mentioned measure are, as set forth in the statement of objects and reasons, to give landlords greater facilities for the collection of their rents and at the same time to guard against evasions, by fair means or foul, of the provisions of the Tenancy Act of 1885, to give greater authority to records-of-right, to enable Government to know who are good landlords and who are bad ones, and to remedy such defects as have become apparent since 1885. These are the ostensible objects, and Mr. Carlyle, in his lengthy speech, made much of them, explaining them elaborately and defending the views of Government on the question. The general tenor of the amending Bill is however nearly the same as that of the Tenancy Act. The Government principle that the rayyet is to be placed in such a position as may enable him easily to defy the zamindar, has been well maintained in the proposed measure. It has become clear that the Government has a strong partiality for the rayyet against the zamindar, so much so that in the case of a dispute between the two parties, it is at once assumed that the zamindar is in the wrong and the rayyet in the right. The main object of the Government in holding such a view may be suspected to be to break the relations which formerly subsisted between a zamindar and his tenants in order to reduce the two parties into a dead level and weaken both. The zamindar was formerly feared and respected because he had a large following of rayyets behind him. He is now no better than his humblest rayyet, and is often victimised by the latter if he presses his rightful claims a little too far. When the rayyet, thus spoiled, will grow powerful and have the zamindars

under their thumb, Government will perhaps turn against them and side with the zamindars. The principle of "divide et impera" is at work, and Government is always consistent in carrying it out, whether in reference to race and race, or to section and section. So far as the principle is concerned, the amending Bill is no improvement upon the original Act. It is therefore hard to be of opinion that the Government is genuinely desirous of maintaining a more even balance between the zamindars and rayyets.

We do not of course mean to suggest that the zamindars do not need any outside interference in their dealings with their rayyets. In the past, the rayyets were a miserable class of people who had to suffer in silence and had none to appeal to against the heartless oppression of the zamindars. There were no doubt liberal zamindars who treated their rayyets as their children, but like all good things in this world, such zamindars were but few. It is to check the rack-renting, oppressive zamindars that the British Government has come forward, and since the appearance of the British Government in the field, the situation has certainly improved to a great extent. What is objectionable is the tight grasp, which is always tightening faster, the Government has secured. The zamindars are being throttled and killed by inches, and the bond which used to keep the zamindar and his rayyets united to one another, is being snapped asunder. If the zamindars are wise, they should try to draw their rayyets nearer and regain their lost influence through wider and more refined means. The old system has received its death-blow. The force of education and culture is more powerful than mere wealth, and the zamindar would be wise to press the new force into his service.

The real object of the amending Bill seems to be to give currency to the records-of-right which have been and are being prepared by revenue officers. This will bring the zamindars more completely under the control of the Government, and enable the latter to pump them with greater ease. Then there is the concession in favour of "good" landlords who will be given a summary procedure for the recovery of rents. This is a favour for which the landlords have prayed for a long time, and although it is to have a partial effect and has been granted under distinct limitations, the landlords who are in the good book of the Government Collector will highly appreciate it. Whether it will tend to make the "bad" landlords "good," has to be seen, but it may perhaps serve to intensify the breach which naturally exists between "loyal" and "disloyal" landlords, and to convert the landlords into sycophants and hangers-on. We await the criticism of the public bodies on the measure. That several amendments will be proposed, is certain. That most of the amendments will not be accepted, is also certain. That the result on the whole will be beneficial, is another matter.

The Local Self-Government Amendment Bill is a measure which will provoke much criticism because a number of rights has been proposed to be transferred to the officials. The powers of district boards have been in cases extended, but they are practically vested in the executive heads of the districts.

THE PATHAN REPULSE OF THE POLICE.

UNDER the head "The Police and the Pathans," the "Englishman" (Friday Nov. 16) begins its editorial notice of the fight of Tuesday last between the Pathan traders in Burra Bazar and the Police, thus:

For many years past a multitude of Pathan traders, residents for the most part of the Derajat and Peshawar, have been in the habit of visiting Calcutta at this season of the year for the purpose of making the purchases which they retail in the mofussil. These people, whose numbers vary from five to fifteen thousand according to some computations, live and sleep in the streets. They place their purchases in big packing cases, which are also kept lying in the street sometimes for weeks at a time. The result is to cause an obstruction in the busiest part of Calcutta. This year apparently the nuisance has been greater than ever, for on Tuesday afternoon a posse of constables from the Burra Bazar Thana went down to Harrison Road and attempted to get the Pathans to remove their packages. The Pathans refused to do so, and a fracas took place which gradually evolved into a big riot as Pathans came rushing up from all quarters and the Police were reinforced from Burra Bazar and Colootollah. It is admitted on all hands that after a struggle of about twenty minutes the police, who were outnumbered, broke and ran. Information in the meanwhile had been sent to the Central Police Office, and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, accompanied by a strong body of European constables and mounted police, arrived on the scene. The Pathans, who had armed themselves with sticks and brickbats, made no attempt at retreating on the arrival of these reinforcements, but the Deputy Commissioner, instead of ordering attack on them, went out to parley. A Mahomedan priest lent his assistance and it was apparently decided that both sides should withdraw. The police went away, taking with them one prisoner who was subsequently released. The latest information is that the Pathans have promised to remove the packages, provided they are given time to do so.

Its explanation of the police forbearance is:

There is no particular reason why we should defend the police authorities, but before jumping at conclusions regarding the motives of their action one or two facts should be borne in mind. The first retreat in disorder was inevitable as the police were hopelessly outnumbered. It was only when reinforcements arrived of European constables that the police were in a position to give battle. Why then did not the Deputy Commissioner, instead of parleying, give the order for a general police charge on the mob that was defying the law? Because—and the answer is one that the Bengalis and their friends ought to be well aware of—it is the policy of the Government which has again and again been impressed upon the police to show some restraint in the face of provocation, to avoid bloodshed whenever possible. It would have been the easiest thing in the world for the Deputy Commissioner to disperse the mob by simply firing into it. The breach of the law of which the Pathans were guilty was a mere nothing compared with the studied defiance which has again and again within recent months been offered to the police by students and others who call themselves patriots. Obviously, if the police refrained in these instances from the use of their weapons, it was more necessary to show some restraint in dealing with the traders who conceive, owing to long use, that they really have a right to use the streets for their own purposes. It is a fact that there is no caravanserai in Calcutta for the use of Indian travellers and a great hardship will be put on these Pathans if they are no longer permitted to do business in their accustomed way.

Its conclusion is:

As far as we can gather there was real disappointment in the police ranks on Tuesday when it was discovered that the Pathans were to be left alone, and one can imagine with what joy the Calcutta police who have had to put up during the last year with a hundred insults and annoyances, would learn that they were permitted at last to give back as much as they got.

We believe the Police provoked the resistance. The Pathans knew they had no right to occupy the footpaths, but being unmolested long in the occupation, there was growing up a right. They did not claim any right, and when ordered were removing their goods. During this time the police showed their usual spirit and began the assault, not an organized one. The Pathan spirit was roused by this unseemly but the usual conduct of the Police, and they showed resistance. They only retaliated. When the Police gathered strength after the first defeat, it was, we should think, wisely decided not to proceed further and allow the opposers to depart in peace. Fearless of life they would have stood the fire poured upon them. Such a Police raid in that busy and populous quarter would have been a great disaster—causing no small loss of life and property. When the traders took up a strong attitude the managers of the Barabazar Branch of the Bengal Bank were the first to be alarmed. They brought up additional guards of their own and closed the vault early without counting the money. It was they, we believe, that suggested, in their own interest and the interest of many shop-keepers, to the Police the policy of inaction and conciliation. The absence of massacre by the Police and loot by the buidmashes of the quarter was due to the Accountant of the Bank. For the so-called lapse towards peace of the Police, the city is indebted to the foresight of Mr. E. J. Lapsley, the very able Accountant of the Bengal Bank—Barabazar Branch.

THE High Court re-opened on the 12th November. The long vacation enabled some of the Judges to visit their home. The Chief Justice had been there on leave before the vacation. He returned and went again, passing the holiday in England. He is come back, but not Mr. Justice Bodilly who has resigned his office. There are several vacancies on the bench. One of the important questions for consideration of the Chief Justice is his recommendation for the new Judges. Another is his decision on a question raised by two Civilian Judges, of procedure and etiquette.

At the desire of the Government of India, Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose, who would have, by previous arrangement, retired from that day, keeps on as a Judge till at least the end of the year. It seems Government is not yet decided as to the new Judges. There is a call for a Musalman Judge. Several names of practising lawyers, of Bengal and elsewhere, have been mentioned. The Bengal High Court had only one Musalman Judge, in Mr. Ameer Ali. At Allahabad there was Mr. Mahmood. The first such Judge in Bombay was Mr. Budruddin Tyabjee. He has been replaced by Mr. Devar—the first Parsi Judge of any High Court. The Musalmans think that they have competent men of their community to be Judges in the High Courts of Calcutta and Allahabad and the Chief Court of Lahore. A Musalman barrister of the Panjab Chief Court has been named for the Bengal High Court to the dismay of the Bengal lawyers.

Mr. Justice Bodilly was a good and strong Judge. It is believed that he would have proved one of our best Judges if he had continued. Mr. Justice Bodilly was an imported Barrister Judge. Such Judges, when well chosen, are usually welcome and turn out better Judges than Barristers drafted from the local bar, for they are untainted by local prejudices, and uninfluenced by old likes and dislikes. They also quickly end their ignorance of Indian matters. We are afraid Mr. Peterson, Sir Charles Paul and Mr. Pitt-Kennedy did not give satisfaction as officiating Judges.

One of the Judges who has returned from leave and rejoined the Court, is Mr. Justice Stephen. We welcome him back, especially as Mr. Bodilly has ceased to be a Judge. Mr. Justice Stephen comes of a family unusually distin-

guished during the past century in the public service and in literature. Mr. Justice Stephen is a good specimen of a British gentleman which is unfortunately becoming rare in India. On the bench he is impartial and independent, with an open mind to do justice, without any distinction. Mrs. Stephen is an excellent type of an English lady.

Mr. Peter O'Kinealy, having returned from leave, has resumed his charge as Advocate General and been taken in as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council.

THERE is revival of a rumour, as voiced by the *Sanjibani* which is often in advance of the Indian press in the matter of information of a kind, that the Government of India have proposed the name of Mr. Justice Ashutosh Mukerjee for the next vacancy in the legal membership of the Viceroy's Executive Council. Is it possible?

THE failure of Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., believed to be "as safe as the Bank of England," has led the Government of Madras to further strengthen its strong position. Certain proposals have gone up to the Government of India to enable the Bank "to give accommodation to the mercantile community and to finance trade generally." Is the Bank of Madras to supply to a certain extent the place of Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co?

THE disaster that has overtaken Madras seems to be greater than the Bengal disaster of the forties pictured in the following lines:

(Translated from the original Bengali.)

I.

Arrived in England, to the Queen
Judge Seaton says, with mournful mien,
How Ruin with her haggard look,
Our hapless townsmen overtook :
"Most potent sovereign ! deign to hear
The news from India's shores I bear ;
Which to inform Your Majesty,
I've noted down most carefully.
At Chetla's Haut, the great resort
Of those who follow trade,
At Chandpaul's Ghaut, that's near the Fort,
And round the Esplanade,
As well as where at Barrackpore*
Old Charnock lived in days of yore ;
I've walked, but found within the Town,
None, who their former wealth could own,
The lieges, one and all, I saw,
Sought eagerly th' Insolvent law.
O ! noble Queen !
In truth I ween,
Of India, once of golden fame,
Nought now remains except her name.

II.

There was no more the Union Bank,
Or Cockerell's house, the first in rank,
Or Tulloh's firm to sell ;
No more did vessels proudly ride
Upon the stream's majestic tide,
But O ! 'tis sad to tell,
That Chattoot and his brother, too,
Should bite the dust and weep and rue ;
The Raja Nursing Chander Roy,
And Radhamadhub Banerjee,
In sorrow did their time employ
To count the waves of misery :
While Peel has made th' Insolvent Court
Of all and each, the free resort.
The men about the Court Supreme,
And those who ruled the Bank, would seem
Allied together in the theft
Of public money, right and left,
The work of plunder well was done,
The city's wealth and credit gone,
Those who've escaped the general press,
Fear for the little they possess ;

To save it from foul knavery,
They're forced to make thè Benamy.
O ! noble Queen !
In truth I ween,
Of India, once of golden fame,
Nought now remains except her name.

III.

Throughout the city, I have been,
And every nook and corner seen ;
From Sham-bazar and Baug-bazar,
To Chandney-choke and Bowbazar,*
Ah ! what shall I say,
E'en in the broad day,
It seemed as 'twere involved in shade,
Without the cheering light of trade.

IV.

The firm of Messieurs Carr, Tagore,
With Birley, Corrie, is no more.
And others, too, have ceased to live
Who had not funds enough to give
While, on the other hand,
What mournful cries
Ascend the skies,
Throughout Calcutta's land !
The Union's gone to rally never,
O'Dowda's credit lost for ever,
And dread Misfortune stalked along
The people of the Town among.
What affliction dire,
Like the heavenly fire
Of lightning burst upon the head
Of Chattoo, when his son was dead !
What with the loss of Life, so dear,
And Wealth, the next of worldly gear,
Poor Aushootosh pursued no more,
His varied pleasures as before.
O ! noble Queen !
In truth I ween,
Of India, once of golden fame,
Nought now remains except her name."

14th November, 1848.

Madame Ida Pfeiffer alludes to this crisis in one of her books, thus :

"My arrival at Calcutta happened at one of the most unfortunate epochs that had ever visited that city. Three unfruitful years in nearly all Europe were followed by a trade crisis, which threatened to ruin Calcutta. Every intelligence from Europe brought accounts of serious failures, which brought down to ruin the richest houses here. Not a merchant ventured to say that he possessed anything—the next post might make him a beggar. An anxious feeling, a nervous anxiety, had seized every family. The losses in England were already reckoned at 30,000,000., and here misfortune had as yet no bounds."

The present distress in Madras has been brought about by the failure of one European firm in India.

WE read :

"The 'Catholic Herald of India' states that the 'N. Y. Freeman's Journal' is publishing a number of letters from Doctors, Professors of Universities, full of facts going to prove that, partially, we have been labouring under a serious error when we talk of hydrophobia, as generally understood. The letters give a great mass of testimony from physicians asserting the extreme rarity of hydrophobia even in the dog, while many medical men of wide experience are of the opinion that if it develops in human beings at all, it is only on extremely rare occasions ; that the condition of hysterical excitement in man, described by newspapers as hydrophobia, is merely a series of symptoms, due usually to a dread of the disease, such dread being caused by realistic newspaper and other reports acting upon the imaginations of persons scratched or bitten by animals suspected of rabies.

A Professor of Clinical Surgery is of the opinion that he bite of a dog is no more dangerous than the scratch of

* Places of fashionable resort among Europeans in this country.
† The pet name of Baboo Aushootosh Dey.

* The parts of the Town inhabited by natives of rank and wealth as well as those engaged in trade.

a pin or the puncture of an infectious nail, but because of exaggerated printed and oral accounts the picture of hydrophobia is so stamped upon the public mind that the thought of it, after being bitten by a dog, throws imaginative people into such panics of nervous excitement that they unconsciously reproduce its supposed symptoms.

Another M. D., who concurs with the writer of the first and longest letter, says :—

"I am glad of the opportunity to express my concurrence in the plain and need of the above letter. During an experience of twenty-five years in the active practice of medicine I have not seen a case of real rabies in man or animals, but I know that people who may have been bitten by dogs are sometimes frightened into hysterical conditions in which they involuntarily reproduce all the supposed symptoms of hydrophobia. Besides there are many disorders, as for example "anigna and cynanche" of the fauces, to mention but two, connected with the respiratory apparatus where the symptoms are similar to those supposed to be symptoms of hydrophobia, such as difficulty and often impossibility of swallowing water, a feeling of horror at the mere idea of having to swallow, convulsive movements, delirium, slaver at the mouth, etc. In such cases the popular picture of hydrophobia seems to be complete, and it is not at all strange that they are sometimes mistaken for that volatile disorder. The publication of the above letter is calculated to do much good, inasmuch as its lucid presentation of contemporary opinion is such as to properly convince the timid that there is no more danger from dog-bite than from any other wound."

Is, then, hydrophobia a myth or a disease of the mind? What need then of the Pasteur Institute? Is the disease from fear as dreadful as the disease from bite, and will the same treatment be applicable to both kinds? Fear not only brings on hydrophobia but other diseases may also be caused by it—at any rate, it may hasten the attack to be avoided. In fear-diseases the proper treatment should be directed to relieve the mind of the disease. Even in real diseases, the mind acts no mean part. Mesmerism or hypnotism is now an accepted remedy. The miracles at Lourdes, the faith-cures at Bethshan and similar phenomena have been found not to be impostures and delusions but simple matters of fact. Professor Charcot declares faith-cure "an ideal method, since it often attains its end when all other means have failed." M. Lettré explains. The mind, which is most eminently receptive of suggestion, will be the most likely to be influential in curing the body in which it is enshrined, by the powerful force of auto-suggestion.

Faith-cure, while of a scientific order, has limited dominion. To produce its effects, says Professor Charcot, "it must be applied to those cases which demand for their cure no intervention beyond the power which the mind has over the body." Hydrophobia may, therefore, be cured by faith. Probably, it is the faith in Pasteurism that swells the number of cures.

THE Bengal Government invites more opinion on the proposal for the removal of the Presidency College to a better site in the suburbs of Calcutta. This week's Calcutta Gazette (Nov. 14) publishes a Government Resolution and a variety of opinions already taken. The Resolution has:

"Before any scheme of improvement can be laid before the Government of India, it is desirable that the question of the future location of the College should be subjected to a more extended examination. The Lieutenant Governor is unwilling to take any further steps in the matter until he is more fully informed as to the trend of public opinion on this question, and as to the reasons for any difference there may be between the views prevalent in the metropolis and those which find acceptance in the districts."

In one of the opinions published we find:

"I am afraid that the establishment of a residential college close to Calcutta may have the effect of interfering with the success of the Ranchi College."

What about that scheme?

THE Bengal Government has approved of the substitution of the Calcutta Corporation of "bottle green" for "yellow" of most of its hackney carriages.

The Mayor has expressed to the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta his "cordial appreciation" of their kind proposal and "is very pleased that his family name should be given to the present Jhow Square."

This was the first item of business at the adjourned 8th ordinary monthly meeting of the Corporation this week.

The next was the Administration Report for the year 1905-06. Mr. Braunsfeld remarked:

"The Review began with regret at every paragraph. It meant that they had failed in the discharge of their duty."

Not necessarily. The regret might be due to less expenditure for want of funds.

Regarding the income and expenditure, he, as reported in the *Bengalee*, said:

"The annual income was Rs. 68 lakhs and he asked how was that income spent? They had to pay 22 lakhs for establishment. Out of the remaining 46 lakhs, 26 lakhs went for paying interest for Corporation debts which were mounting up year by year. There only remained 20 lakhs which, it could be said, were spent in beautifying the city, in opening out squares in congested bustis where plague raged and decimated the city...The Executive ate up 22 lakhs like caterpillars, the loans devoured 26 lakhs like locusts, and the contractors fed upon the balance like the nameless insect."

This corporate body is then maintained chiefly for the benefit of the municipal Executive, the debenture holders and the contractors. The assessments are higher, the collection is better, the fines are heavier and still nothing is left to benefit those who pay the rates, the taxes and the fines.

Mr. Pratt thought that for the improvements made in every department, the Corporation deserved to be favourably considered. Regarding the increase of mortality and fever, he said that the habits of the people were responsible for the same—not the Municipality. We are here presented the spectacle—that while the Corporation is improving in every department, the habits of the people are travelling with greater speed in the other direction. Every improvement then in the Corporation is a drawback to the people or the citizens. Without improving the ways of the people, every act of the Municipality deteriorates them. It cannot be denied that the growing demands on the purse of the people, in the shape of increased rates, taxes and fines, are driving them to extremes, making them more slovenly and unhealthy. What, then, is the value of costly municipal improvements?

THE "Empire" announces Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman's book on Mussalman law, thus:

"We are glad to see that Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman is publishing the work on which he has been engaged for the last few years—'Institutes of Musalman Law, with reference to original Arabic Sources and decided cases from 1792 to 1906.' To the rawest layman this conveys an impression of great erudition and the most elaborate research; and Sir John Stanley, Chief Justice at Allahabad, has seen the manuscript and commended it from the lawyer's point of view. We congratulate Mr. Abdur Rahman upon the successful issue of his arduous labours."

MOULVI Bazl-ul-Karim, who was believed to have gone on leave preparatory to his retirement, has been posted to the head-quarters station of the Shahabad district. There is a sigh heaved that he does not come back to the Calcutta Police Court. Is that Court the gainer or loser by his severance?

THE Government of India, acting on the recommendation of the Lieutenant Governor, have appointed the Hon. Mr. Justice Fox, Barrister-at-law, to be Chief Justice of the Chief Court of Lower Burma in succession to the Hon. Sir Harvey Adamson, Kt., C.S.I., who has been appointed a member of the Council of the Governor-General. The

Government of India have intimated that the selection of a Barrister on this occasion for the substantive appointment of Chief Judge is warranted in the case of the Hon. Justice Fox by his knowledge of the people and country, and by his long experience as a Judge of the Court. His appointment involves, therefore, no departure from the principles laid down in previous correspondence to which the Government of India have decided to adhere.

WE take the following two items from *The Crescent* of October 10:

No perfume is quite as strong as attar. Remember, the yield is less than one-twenty-fifth of 1 per cent (0.04) of the roses used. For 1lb. of attar more than 4,000lbs. of roses are needed. The Turkish peasant gets about 18 shillings an ounce. For the same thing as sold in Paris, London, and Berlin the price is £8 an ounce. So strong is the odour that nothing short of a hermetically-sealed jar will retain it. A glass stopper, however tight, will not keep it back. Indeed, so strong is genuine attar of rose that it is nauseating. To remedy this, and to make it genial to the nostrils may be put forward as a kindly explanation why it is so often adulterated and weakened. To be in a Kazanlik store was to be in a thick and sickening atmosphere. The time to visit Kazanlik is about the beginning of June. Then you can get astride your horse, and ride your horse for two days, forty miles a day, feast your eyes on a land of damask blooms, and breathe the scent of millions of roses.

While digging at Colchester some workmen found an earthen vessel of Roman British make containing a hoard of ancient brass coins of the times of Victorinus Gallienus and Letricus, about A. D. 250 to 300. Some enthusiastic antiquarians, recognising the value of the find, collected as many of the coins as possible and pieced together the vase, which had been broken. The coins will be lent to the Corporation museum.

London, Nov. 8. The Bankruptcy Court has announced Macjadyen's liabilities to be £470,000 and assets, roughly, £20,000. The Indian liabilities would exceed one million. The firm had been insolvent for some time. The immediate causes were a demand from the Madras house of £500 and a loss of £75,000 in speculation in copper and tin. A trustee and committee of inspection have been appointed.

London, Nov. 8. Lord Elgin received the Transvaal Deputation to-day. They were accompanied by Sir Level Griffin, Sir Henry Cotton, and several Commons. The proceedings were secret.

London, Nov. 8. Mr. Morley, replying to Mr. Money, who suggested that Indian candidates for the Civil Service should be examined locally, said he was not aware of new circumstances to justify departure from the decision of 1894.

London, Nov. 8. The Russian Government is introducing a graduated income tax producing about three millions sterling. The new electoral law disenfranchises many classes who voted at the last Duma.

Nov. 9. The Russian newspapers are strongly attacking the arbitrary disfranchisement of large classes of electors for the Duma that has taken place.

Russian Terrorists bombed the Mail train entering the station at Rogoff, and secured one million roubles.

London, Nov. 9. Reuter at Hongkong wires that a fire has destroyed five hundred houses at Canton, including all restaurants and gambling houses. Foreign Marines helped to extinguish the fire. There were no fatalities. The damage amounts to a million dollars. Some one was threatened, but escaped.

London, Nov. 10. An official despatch from Cape town states that the Transvaal Ferreira and several other Boers have entered the north-west of Cape Colony and are endeavouring to organise a rebellion. They surprised two police camps seizing the arms and ammunition. Troopers have gone to intercept them. One hundred and fifty of the Cape police start for Prieska immediately.

Later news from Capetown states that Ferreira and his party were recently employed in German South-West Africa. They have wounded two troopers and captured a Corporal. Ferreira is gaining some recruits and is marching to Zwartkopsdorp. It is reported that he is forcing the farmers to join him, asserting that a rising in the Transvaal is imminent. The Government does not regard the rebellion as serious. The danger to the inhabitants being misled by exaggerated reports of Ferreira's successes. The Government is

adopting every measure to suppress the outbreak. The Dutch leaders at Capetown are advising North-Westerners to support the Government.

Nov. 12. The "Times" referring to Lord Elgin's sympathetic reception of the Transvaal Deputation, points out that the Asiatic Ordinance is only temporary, and cannot now be altered by Downing Street, seeing that the Transvaal, as a responsible Government, will shortly have to deal with the status of Indians in accordance with their own views. It fears, however, that the Colony will not heed consequences beyond the limits of South Africa, and dwells upon the injustice of the treatment of Indians, and recommends the coming Colonial Conference to adjust a conflict which must sap the Imperial patriotism binding the Empire together.

Nov. 12. Reuter wires from Capetown that the mounted police were within five miles of the raiders yesterday evening, and are now hotly pursuing them. The country is sandy, and water scarce, and the chase most difficult. The raiders are moving due east. They have succeeded in obtaining a few recruits. Colonel Lukin arrives at Prieska to-morrow and assumes command of the operations. The Governor of the Cape has telegraphed to the German Governor asking him to co-operate in capturing the freebooters if they recross the border in view of their extradition on charges of theft and murder.

Nov. 12. Ferreira's maximum following is twenty men, but with spare horses it is easy to evade the police.

London, Nov. 12. The King and Queen of Norway have arrived at Portsmouth and proceeded to Windsor on a State visit.

London, Nov. 13. The Commons had an all night sitting discussing the Land Tenure Bill.

The Commons rose at 9-40 this morning, after a nineteen hours sitting, characterised by stormy scenes, the Opposition opposing tooth and nail. Several personal incidents also took place.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman left the house at eleven last night. The Liberal Whip declared at four in the morning that he would not move the adjournment until Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman authorised it. The Opposition moved numerous amendments, and finally Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman entered the House at 9-10 a.m., and proposed to adopt clause four, and not suspend the eleven o'clock rule to-night. Mr. Balfour agreed.

Nov. 4. Mr. Birrell, speaking at Bristol, said the Education Bill as altered by the Lords, is a sheer impossibility and he hoped that on the report stage the Lords would recognise they had gone too far. If they did not the Liberal Administration was an imposture and a sham unless the Constitution was changed.

London, Nov. 12. The Archbishop of Canterbury has transmitted to Sir E. Grey, a memorial signed by the Anglican Bishops in China, protesting against Great Britain's Indian policy in respect to opium.

Sir E. Grey in his reply said he referred to Mr. Morley, on 31st May, and added that no official communication was yet received from the Chinese Government about anti-opium edict or the Government monopoly of opium.

London, Nov. 13. M. Santos Dumont has won two prizes in Paris for the first aeroplane flying hundred metres. He covered 220 metres in 21-1-5 seconds at a height of fifteen feet both before and against the wind.

In the Press Price. Rs. 20. For Subscribers Rs. 16.

INSTITUTES.

of

MUSSULMAN LAW.

With references to Original Arabic Sources and decided Cases from 1792--1906.

VOLUME I.

by

A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Esq.,

Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, Judge, Presidency Court of Small Causes, Calcutta. Formerly, Member of the Faculty of Law and Syndicate of the University of Calcutta, &c., &c.

Opinion of the Honourable Sir John Sanley, Kt., K.C., Chief Justice, High Court, Allahabad, who has kindly inspected the manuscript:—

"The scheme and arrangement of the book appears to me admirable; and the introduction of Arabic texts will prove a valuable addition to the text. So far as I can judge, the work will be of the greatest help to lawyers."

Calcutta:—Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.

PUBLICLY DECAPITATED.

A correspondent of the "Civil and Military Gazette" sends a lurid account of a public execution in Hyderabad (Deccan). A Pathan had shot down his brother-in-law in the street in order to obtain possession of his property. After his condemnation, according to custom, the murderer's relatives had no choice whether he should be executed or sent to prison for life. The murderer's wife (sister of the murdered man) voted for his execution, and the man was told to prepare for death. On the day for the execution there appeared in the streets a band of sweepers armed with leafy twigs, followed by a squad of the city Arab police with fixed bayonets. Then came the criminal dressed in new white garments with a new halter around his neck and new ropes attached to his arms. The ends of these ropes were held by policemen. The ordinary thing is for the condemned man to walk, but in this case he was so overcome that he had to be conveyed in a "jutka." The procession moved on past "Charminar" and the "Mecca Masjid" to the "Purana Pul"—a bridge which has from early times been reserved for such occasions, and here was collected a large but perfectly orderly crowd. On arriving at the fatal spot the murderer was made to alight and kneel down, while the policeman handed over charge of the cords to the executioner's attendants, one of whom seizing the end of the halter, stood in front of the felon, while others held the cords pinioning his arms behind. The executioner, brandishing a broad heavy sword, keen as a razor, in a suggestive fashion, and prancing up towards his victim enquired in a loud voice: "Who authorises the execution?" The chief of the city police on duty replied, "The Amin." The executioner retired, and repeated the same movement, and the same question and, receiving the same answer, retired as before. A third time this ritual was performed. But now an attendant armed with a long needle pricked the condemned man in the back, causing him to start forward. At the same instant those holding the cords laid themselves back, in opposite directions as in a tug-of-war contest, with the result that the wretch's neck was stretched; and following the reply of the chief of the police the executioner's blade descended fair and true on the neck, severing the head completely. This mode of punishment, though revolting to European ideas, particularly on account of the publicity attaching to it, is no doubt salutary as a deterrent: for the executioner is a man of the sweeper class, to be touched by whom is defilement, and lawless as Hyderabad is said to be, even a desperate character hesitates before he renders himself liable to such a dreaded punishment.

ABDUL HAMID AND HIS ENTOURAGE.

WAITING FOR DEAD MEN'S SHOES.

Constantinople Oct. 23.

Although the most conflicting rumours are current in this City as to the state of the Sultan's health, I cannot help feeling from certain manoeuvres on the part of his own family that the days of Abdul Hamid are numbered. The smoking room of the Club of

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Golap Chandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L.,

Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Paulat Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna.

Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyay
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vrikshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupat Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

Constantinople vies with that of Shanghai as the most favourable breeding ground for falsehoods in the universe. In neither would a sane man believe a word that he hears. All one can do is to wonder at the fecund imagination of the men who therein do congregate. It was in the Club at Shanghai that the marvellous fable of the murder of all the Foreign Ambassadors in Peking was hatched by the ingenious correspondent of a halfpenny London paper. It was in the Club of Constantinople, that a simple village feud in which some five and twenty Armenians were wiped out by a band of Kurdish brigands was magnified into the massacre of 8,000 men, women and children by the direct orders of the Sultan. Within the last few weeks the members of that Club have been busy with the Sultan's health, with his successor and with his entourage. If we are to believe what we are told in the Club de Constantinople we should indeed be puzzled how to arrive at the truth. The Sultan has undergone a very severe operation, he is suffering from cancer of the bladder, he has determined to nominate his favourite son a lad of 21 to the Throne in defiance of all the laws and customs of the Turkish Empire, he has summoned the two next Heirs Apparent to Yildiz where they have been imprisoned and where they are to suffer death the moment of his demise. If we are to believe the Club habitues, the German doctors who were sent from Berlin to examine His Majesty have forsworn all medical etiquette and have freely imparted to every correspondent a different version of the Sultan's illness. It was Lord Palmerston who said that if you want to obtain a thoroughly inaccurate opinion of a foreign question you should consult a man who has lived in the country 20 years and who knows the language. Therefore when the old Levantine comes to me with the latest yarn he has heard from a friend in close connection with the Palace I know that I am in for some startling piece of "gup."

Denied with an Oath.

I cannot claim to have lived in Turkey for even five years, though my acquaintance dates back to the middle sixties; my knowledge of the language is not that of a "Passed Interpreter," but I happen to count amongst my own personal friends all sorts and conditions of men from Cabinet Ministers and ex-Grand Viziers to humble functionaries in Government offices. Compared with the intimate knowledge of the Club habitues the ignorance of the Palace Official is sublime. To all questions he returns the typical non-committal reply of the trained diplomat. That the Sultan was indisposed no one now attempts to deny. The mere fact that His Majesty did not attend the Ceremony of the Selamlık is sufficient proof of this; but that he was even seriously indisposed all deny with an oath. His Majesty was suffering from a ure pain and his doctors refused to allow him to leave the Palace is the stereotyped reply. He has been placed on a special diet and is now perfectly well. The persistent manner in which the Foreign press recurs to his fleeting indisposition and invents stories as to his selection of a successor is inhuman. Such is the gist of the remarks made by the Palace authorities when asked as to His Majesty's health. Within the last few days I have gone even beyond the lay members of the Sultan's Entourage, and have had several conversations with medical members of His Majesty's suite. One of these who holds the rank of General of Division (for the Turk gave the Doctor combatant rank long before we did) openly avowed that he had not been called in to the many consultations that had taken place, but that he had carefully watched the Sultan at the Friday ceremony of the Selamlık every week since he had been taken ill. Week by week he had noticed an improvement in the Sultan's appearance, and he felt sure from his previous knowledge of the Sultan's medical history that there had been a marked improvement in His Majesty's general health since he had followed the regime prescribed by the German specialists. Again I met another doctor, who assured me that he had seen the Sultan not weekly but daily since his illness, that he was a doomed man and liable to sudden and ever lengthening fainting attacks owing to the severe spasms of pain from which he suffered.

The Succession.

In point of fact it is practically impossible to learn the truth as to the Sultan's health, and in like manner one may regard as apocryphal the stories that His Majesty has determined to nominate his young son the Prince Burhaneddin as his successor. There is no doubt that Abdul Hamid would do so if he dared, but Burhaneddin is twelfth in succession and to make a clean sweep of eleven elder Princes savours too much of the Middle Ages. There have been rumours in the Press that the two next in succession, Reshad Effendi and Prince Youssef Izzet Din, have been called to the Palace and here interned, and that as soon as the Sultan dies Izzet Pasha, the notorious organizer of the Armenian Massacres, is to put these two Princes out of the way and to declare Burhaneddin Sultan. Now Izzet is quite capable of murdering any number of men, but the murder of these two would not clear the way for little Burhaneddin. He has an uncle living besides the Heir Apparent and he has three elder brothers as well as several cousins all nearer to the Throne than himself. His eldest brother the Prince Selim is not on good terms with his

father, it is true, but he has a strong following headed by Field Marshal Zeki Pasha, now a Cabinet Minister, and this exceedingly able and reputedly honest old soldier would not allow the claim of his late pupil to be put on one side for Izzet Pasha's nominee. If prior to Abdul Hamid's death, we hear of the death of some of the Royal Princes, then I shall begin to believe in the stories of Izzet Pasha's plot. In the meantime I happen to know that Reschad Effendi, the Heir Apparent, and Youssef Izzet Din, the next in succession, are safe in their own Palaces, and that each and every one of the Princes, who stand between Burhaneddin and the Throne are fully alive to the dangers they run and have taken steps to safeguard his rights.

It is quite possible that the Yildiz Camarilla will make an effort to place Burhaneddin on the Throne. He is young and they fancy will be more pliable in their hands than any other Prince. Moreover they are all personally known to him. He has been his father's favourite son, and for many years has been accustomed to sit in the Sultan's room when His Majesty has been transacting business with his secretaries, indeed on more than one occasion Abdul Hamid has sent the young Prince on delicate missions to some of the ambassadors. The bolder members of the Yildiz gang know that they will have short shrift if either Reschad Effendi, Youssef Izzet Din or Selim, the Sultan's eldest son, come to the Throne. Unless they can escape from the country before the new Sultan is fairly in the saddle they will find themselves in a very unpleasant position. The two principal members of the gang are, the one a Moslem, Izzet Pasha, the other a Nedjib Catholic, Syrians both of them. The prisons of Asia Minor and the grave-yard in the prison yard at Yildiz Kiosk are full of their victims, but there are others who still enjoy their liberty and who are sworn to be revenged on these men.

Nedjib Melhamen and Izzet Pasha know this full well. When the Sultan's illness assumed an acute form, Nedjib Pasha obtained the Sultan's leave to proceed on a mission to endeavour to obtain

the support of the Sovereigns of Europe to the candidature of Prince Burhaneddin. He visited Marienbad and reported to the Sultan that in the course of a two hours' interview with King Edward, our King had promised to countenance the young Prince's nomination. Of course this was absolutely false. The real object of Nedjib Pasha's mission was to be absent from Constantinople at the time of the Sultan's death, as he is well aware of the fate that awaits him. He with true Syrian cunning, has placed the large fortune that he has amassed in foreign funds and he stayed away until he had learnt the real nature of the Sultan's disease, and that there was no danger of his immediate demise. The astute Syrian is perfectly ready for an immediate fit should Abdul Hamid's illness take an unfavourable turn. He has obtained the Sultan's permission to go through a course of waters at some baths in Servia, where he says he will be within a day's journey of Stamboul. Thus he has disarmed the Sultan's suspicions. But though the Pasha has obtained this permission he still stays on at Yildiz. When I hear of his departure for Nisoh I shall know that the Sultan's illness has taken a fatal turn, and I shall also expect to hear that Izzet Pasha has left the Bosphorus on the powerful steam launch which always lies with steam up at the landing stage below Yildiz Kiosk.

Doomed Men.

Nedjib and Izzet Pasha are not the only members of the Sultan's entourage who are doomed men. It is impossible to mix with Turkish officials without sympathising with their feelings towards certain members of the Yildiz gang. Fashin Pasha, the head of the Secret Police, and son of the Sultan's foster brother, Faik Bey, the son of the Sultan's valet Mendoukh Pasha, the Minister of the Interior, Shaikh Aboul Houdah, the chief Moslem Priest at Yildiz and Munt Pasha, the Ambassador in Paris, are all openly spoken of as doomed to die as soon as Abdul Hamid has shuffled off his mortal coil. It is impossible that these men are ignorant of the fate that awaits them. Robbery and the taking of bribes are not the crimes which have brought on them the detestation of their fellows. All and each of them have been guilty of cold-blooded murders, and many of their intended victims, though escaping with their lives are dragging out a miserable existence in the dungeons at Bagdad or on the shores of the Black Sea. Amongst their victims are some of the best and bravest servants of the Sultan.

I have discussed the question of the Sultan's Successor with all men of all ranks—with friends of Reschad Effendi, the Heir Apparent, of Youssef Izzet Din, the next in succession, and of Izzet Pasha's nominee, the Prince Burhaneddin. The followers of Reschad Effendi seem to have lost all hope. The Prince is only two years younger than Abdul Hamid, he has been suffering for years from Bright's disease, he wishes to be left in peace as does his younger brother who is third in succession. The supporters of Youssef Izzet Din on the contrary are full of hope, whilst the friends of Burhaneddin maintain that though the accession of their Prince is not outside the range of practical politics, yet it will be a step attended with so much danger and would be followed by so much bloodshed that they do not think it will be attempted unless the little Prince receives the support of one of the Great Powers.

What will Happen ?

The personal opinion of a foreigner is of little value on a question of this sort, but I give mine for what it is worth. I do not for one moment believe that the Sultan has ever allowed this question of the nomination of Burhaneddin to be discussed by the Cabinet. His Majesty must know that there are members of that body who are conservative enough to insist that the succession should follow the normal course. I believe, and I have good grounds for my belief, that Izzet Pasha first coquetted with Youssef Izzet Din in the hope of obtaining a promise that he should be named first Secretary in the event of his being placed on the Throne. On Youssef refusing to treat with Izzet Pasha, whom he has good reason to despise and distrust Izzet Pasha conceived the idea of winning round the Sultan to the idea of nominating his favourite son. Izzet Pasha's own immediate followers inculcating the Syrian Regiment forming the Garrison at Yildiz, might be depended on to follow out Izzet's orders. On the other hand the Arabian Regiment would follow the orders of the Grand Vizier, himself an Albanian and a bitter enemy of Izzet. Knowing this I do not think that Izzet Pasha will risk his life even for Prince Burhaneddin. To sum up, so far as I am able to form an opinion, I believe that the Sultan is suffering from chronic inflammation of the bladder and that he is gradually succumbing despite the treatment he is now so steadily following. He may live yet however for some considerable time possibly a year. When he dies I believe his successor will be the Prince Youssef Izzet Din and that Burhaneddin must wait his turn as his father did before him. He is too young and untried for men to fight for, and his past has been too colourless to warrant such a departure from the established custom of many generations. —The Empire, Nov. 13.

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Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a keen freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Coft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that most the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to write so gracefully attribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chandra Mookerjee, the well-known Bengali journalist (Cinecra Thacker, Sunk and Co.), nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot" in its prominent days under Kristonas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India" (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press in eulogy is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked on public affairs from a different point of view than theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservatism of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, a biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory, it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a bad page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

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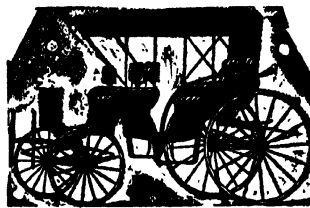
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VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1906. WHOLE NO. 1,246.

THE ARBUTHNOT FAILURE.

Madras, Nov. 18.

In response to invitations issued by the Official Assignee, about a thousand creditors of Messrs. Arbutnot and Co., assembled last night at the Victoria Hall to hear a statement of the affairs of the firm from him. The Official Assignee made a long statement. He remarked that the business of the present insolvency was a vast one. The business had ramifications all over the Presidency and out of it. Referring to the history of the firm, he said, the crucial date in the history of the firm was 1887 when the London firm was established in aid of and auxiliary to the Madras firm. The relation between the two firms could not be gathered on any writing. There was no partnership deed and no agreement in writing. In fact there was no record in writing defining the relations between the two houses which he believed were practically one. It might, however, be safely said that capital was provided for the London firm by the Madras firm, and so far as the partners were concerned the London house and the Madras firm were one firm and their liabilities and assets were of one firm. The London firm originally did export and import work, but Macfadyen entered upon much wider speculations. The Madras partners could not, however, be excused as to want of knowledge about the ways and doings of Macfadyen. He sustained serious losses in West Indian sugar plantations and American rails, which were met practically out of the capital and investments of the Madras firm. The Official Assignee believed that in 1893 their indebtedness went up to 60 lakhs. What were and what continued to be the relations between the Madras and the London firm could not easily be ascertained.

The rendering of balance sheets and adjustment of accounts were altogether unsatisfactory. Except the usual weekly cable of advices of balances and accounts there appeared to have been no attempts to adjust accounts and strike balances. Capital accounts were kept separate and never adjusted. The losses rather increased from year to year, and although the two firms were intimately connected there was no attempt made at any time to prepare any balance sheet showing assets and liabilities. No regular information could therefore be obtained of the position of the two houses during the last few years. The losses continued to be very heavy till 1900, when they had to be faced.

Coincident with these heavy losses there were great changes in the Madras Presidency, with regard to industries in which the firm was much interested, namely, coffee and indigo, in which the firm's capital was all locked up. In more recent years there were heavy losses in Madras in connection with the salt trade and it was feared that the change in the fiscal policy of Government had something to do with it. The losses in the speculations of the Madras firm were not so heavy as those of Macfadyen. But the Madras firm's speculation in Consols and English funded securities in the Boer war brought on a loss of three lakhs, and a joint speculation, the nature of which was not known, but in which Macfadyen and Sir George Arbutnot were interested, resulted in another loss of three lakhs. In 1897 there were no

profits to divide. Macfadyen continued to speculate and the result was that he became unable to help Madras.

The Official Assignee then read to the meeting the report of Messrs. Lovelock and Lewis on Arbutnot's accounts. On the 22nd October, the date of their suspension accounts show an estimated deficit, excluding London assets and liabilities, of Rs. 2,01,61,524, and including them a deficit of Rs. 2,68,66,524. The auditors at the conclusion of their report state as follows:—

"Although the various departments with the exception of the Import Department were individually closed to the end of 1905, yet at the date of insolvency no aggregate balance sheet and profit and loss account had been drawn up since 31st December, 1903. We have succeeded in getting the 1904 and 1905 accounts made up for us and they were handed to us on the 12th instant. The private ledger containing partnership account has not been touched since 1897. No attempt has been made since then to write off losses and drawings against the partner's capital accounts. No attempt has been made to balance the banking books since 28th December, 1905. They have not yet been balanced as at 31st October. No London balance sheets or revenue accounts have been laid before us. London is stated to have never furnished Madras with any figures beyond ordinary weekly cash current accounts. We are informed that London made heavy speculative losses of upwards of £100,000 as far back as 1893 and further losses totalling to about the same amount between that date and 1900, of which the Madras house had cognisance. The heavy debt due from London of Rs. 7,05,77,006, written off in deficit account, partly arose out of these transactions. We have hardly come across a single instance of loss of capital being faced and written off. The ledgers are full of masses of so-called assets, beyond all belief worthless, which crumpled to dust when touched. The actual losses on the working of various enterprises carried forward and added year after year, balances of loans, the security held against which has long since been realised or become worthless, old debts relating to a previous partnership, hopeless advances and balances of all descriptions, in many instances still further increased each year by addition of equally hopeless interest: all these help towards making up the present balance of deficit. In spite of the balance sheet figures being in this condition the profit and loss accounts as actually made up since 1897, which have been handed to us, show the following results: 1898: loss Rs. 1,14,031. 1899: profit Rs. 74,105. 1900: loss Rs. 1,47,030. 1901: loss Rs. 93,365. 1902: loss Rs. 1,03,025. 1903: loss Rs. 20,981. 1904: profit Rs. 2,523. 1905: loss Rs. 2,17,205.

"It is to be noted that the Import Department and Estate and Crop Department profits were not included in the above, but were carried forward as a reserve against old losses; also that the Industrial 1905 dividend was not brought to credit with the above 1905 figure, both of which go to mitigate the above losses. We have sought diligently for any facts which we could set and weigh against those contained in the report, but at present we are sorry to say without success. The report shows that the total assets include the following: loans estimated good; Rs. 2,04,159. Overdrafts on current accounts: Rs. 67,706. Coffee Estates Rs. 15,33,189. Piece goods, stocks, promissory notes, etc., Rs. 7,77,828. Sundry blocks of stock, and miscellaneous assets, Rs. 9,10,745. Investments, sundry shares, and Government Papers, Rs. 5,71,637. Arbutnot's Industrials Limited Ordinary Shares, Rs. 25,00,000. Ditto Preference Shares, Rs. 4,83,000. Mysore Sugar Company Limited Ordinary Shares, 50 per cent, paid Rs. 5,00,000 cash Rs. 35,714. Balance being estimated deficit in Madras, Rs. 20,161,524. Total Rs. 2,77,45,502. Estimated London assets, as

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cabled, Rs. 3,45,000 total estimated deficits Rs. 2,68,66,524. The following are details of deficit as on 22nd October :—

"Bad debts current Rs. 5,68,852. Bad debts miscellaneous loans, Rs. 9,42,834. Coffee estates written off Rs. 47,41,358. Miscellaneous bad assets Rs. 41,71,871. Partners drawing at debit Rs. 9,85,994 partners loans Rs. 2,40,732. London current and No. 2 accounts Rs. 35,77,912. London Home account Rs. 34,80,694. Miscellaneous adjustments Rs. 14,82,177. Total Rs. 20,161,524."

The Official Assignee then summarised the causes of the insolvency which were : the starting of the London office ; money locked up in coffee ; losses in indigo ; losses in the salt trade ; loss by defalcation ; and also loss of 3 lakhs on funded Consols in the Boer war ; and another 3 lakhs in private speculation of 1902-1903.

The meeting then adjourned to Monday 26th,

FULLER PAPERS.

MR. RISLEY'S REMARKS.

WITHDRAWAL SUGGESTED.

B.—No. 141, dated Simla, the 5th July, 1906. Demi-official from—H. H. Risley, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Hon. Sir Bampfylde Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

In connection with other questions relating to affairs in Eastern Bengal, the Government of India have recently had occasion to consider the application made to the Syndicate of the Calcutta University in your Chief Secretary's letter to the Registrar of the 10th February for the withdrawal of recognition from two schools under private management in Sirajganj. They understand that some difference of opinion is likely to arise in the Syndicate as to the degree of culpability that attaches to the proprietors of the schools, and that in the event of the Syndicate deciding to withdraw recognition or to take any sort of punitive action the question is certain to be brought before the Senate where it will form the subject of an acrimonious public discussion in which the partition of Bengal and the administration of the new province will be violently attacked. In the present state of public feeling in Bengal it seems to the Government of India highly inexpedient that a debate of this nature should take place, whatever may be the decision arrived at by the University authorities in the particular case. They do not deny that the conduct of the students was scandalous in the extreme and that it was connived at by some at any rate of the masters ; while they fully recognise the grave dangers arising from the rebellious spirit which has manifested itself of late in many schools in Bengal. But they are disposed to think that the political objections to pressing the application to the Syndicate outweigh whatever educational advantages might be supposed to attach to the withdrawal of recognition from the schools. And they doubt whether a disciplinary measure of this kind adopted at a time of great public excitement is likely to exercise a salutary influence over the general body of students and masters who have identified themselves with recent political movements. Instead of having recourse to collective punishment which may involve some innocent persons and which in any case would be liable to be misconstrued in England, they would prefer to rely upon the gradual effect of the new University regulations which aim, they understand, at discouraging the participation of students in political movements by enforcing the responsibility of the masters and the managing committees of schools for maintaining discipline both in and out of school hours.

For these reasons I am to suggest for Your Honor's consideration the advisability of withdrawing the application for withdrawal of recognition made in your letter to the Registrar of 10th February 1906.

SIR B. FULLER'S REPLY.

RESIGNATION OFFERED.

C.—Dated Camp Barisal, the 15th July 1906. Letter from—The Hon. Sir J. B. Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

To—His Excellency the Viceroy.

I venture to trouble Your Excellency about the enclosed letter

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which has reached me from Mr. Risley. The two schools to which he refers behaved scandalously badly. The boys violently interfered with trade in the town and made a concerted assault upon a European, there being no provocation. The school committees refused to give up the names of the offenders. The disaffiliation of the schools was recommended by the Education Department and I forwarded to the University the recommendations of the Department and endorsed them. After the recommendation had reached the University overtures were made for an amicable settlement. I met them gladly and offered to withdraw the recommendation if the offending boys were made to pay a small fine. Arrangements for this compromise were almost completed when the Calcutta leaders intervened and induced the school committees to go back upon it. The correspondence connected with these negotiations is before the University Syndicate. There is no question of abiding hardship. When recommending that the schools should be disaffiliated I made arrangements for establishing a new Government school in the town and if the schools after being disaffiliated acknowledge past errors I should of course interest myself actively in procuring their reafiliation. To withdraw from our position in this case would be to make a concession not in the interests of education but to those people in Calcutta who have been striving to render my Government impossible in order to discredit the partition. The withdrawal would degrade the condition of our schools for some time to come. Your Excellency is aware that the concessions that have already been made have so far had merely provocative effects. I have weighed very carefully my responsibilities in this matter, I appreciate the difficulties which arise out of the present political situation. It is my duty to do everything in my power to assist your Excellency's Government and to stand upon no considerations affecting my personal dignity or reputation, but it is my conviction that if I give way in this matter my authority will be so greatly weakened that I shall not be able to maintain that respect for the Government which is so essential for the maintenance of public order in this country, and I beg that Your Excellency will forgive me for venturing to ask that these orders may be reconsidered or that if I am to give effect to them my resignation may be accepted. I should deeply regret the inconvenience which might result from my withdrawal from the helm at the present juncture and I have considered carefully whether in view of this inconvenience it is not my duty to act in this case in accordance with the wishes of the Government of India whatever be the consequences ; but I have come to the conclusion that it will be better in the interests of the State that there should be a new Lieutenant-Governor than that one should hold office in discredit and I trust that Your Excellency will pardon me for adding to the complications of the present situation. If Your Excellency is of opinion that I am wrong and that I should withdraw the recommendation for disaffiliation I will do so immediately I receive telegraphic instructions to this effect.

D.—Telegram dated the 28th July 1906.

From—The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy.

To—The Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Your letter to Viceroy July 15th. His Excellency is very sorry not to have been able to answer your letter before, but your request to be allowed to resign in reference to instructions with which you cannot agree has raised important points which require a little time for consideration before Viceroy can give a decision.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

E.—Telegram dated the 3rd August 1906.

From—His Excellency the Viceroy.

To—The Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Owing to great importance of subjects referred to in your letter to me on July 15th, I hope you will understand that I have been unable to send an earlier reply. After most careful consideration and as I am unable to reconsider the orders conveyed to you to which you take exception I have decided with much regret to accept the resignation you have tendered. I must at the same time express my sincere appreciation of the services you have rendered under very difficult circumstances. I have recommended that Mr. Hare should succeed you and I have asked him to communicate with you as to his taking over your duties. Please consider this private till appointment is made public from here.

F.—Telegram dated Shillong, the 4th August 1906.

From—The Hon. Sir J. B. Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

To—His Excellency the Viceroy.

I thank Your Excellency for kind expression.

It would be a great convenience should I be informed of any proximate date of relief.

THE VICEROY'S REASONS.

G.—Dated the 5th August 1906.

Letter from His Excellency the Viceroy,

To—The Hon. Sir J. B. Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

I received your letter of July 15th with very sincere regret, and I asked Dunlop Smith to telegraph to you that the considerations involved were so serious that it was impossible for me to send you a reply at once. This I hope you understood. I can assure you I have given the most careful thought to the exception you took to our views here on the school question, and it appeared to me that in the face of the opinions you expressed it would be most undesirable for your own sake as well as on public grounds to press you to retain your appointment. I therefore telegraphed to you on August 3rd accepting the resignation you had tendered. I cannot say how painful it was for me to do so, for no one is more aware than I am of your long and distinguished public services and of the exceptionally difficult position in which you have been placed. You have had new machinery to work with and have had opposed to you an organisation whose object has been to render impossible the administration of the new Province. Therefore, when a decision on the Siragunij school question had to be taken, I felt that as you had expressed your willingness to resign, it would not be right to ask you to undertake procedure of which you did not approve and which could only add further to the difficulties of your surroundings and entail further risks as to the security of your position. I can only repeat my sincere regret at the course of events so soon after my arrival in India. The Secretary of State has approved the appointment of Mr. Hare as your successor and I have to-day telegraphed to you that I hope you will arrange with him as you find most convenient. Mr. Slack in the meantime takes charge in Bengal till Sir Andrew Fraser returns. I had much hoped to delay the announcement of your resignation till after the "partition" public meeting fixed for Tuesday next, but unfortunately the newspapers have succeeded in obtaining information which it would be impossible to prevent them making use of if I endeavoured to delay the official notification. I therefore have decided to let it appear to-morrow. Of course, I do not know what your plans are, but if I can be of any use to you in the future it will be a great pleasure to me.

THE END

H.—Dated Shillong, the 13th August 1906.

Letter from—The Hon. Sir J. B. Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

To—His Excellency the Viceroy.

I am much obliged to your Excellency for your kind letter. It is always possible to take a philosophical view of misfortune and I think that it was inevitable in present circumstances that the man who was selected to carry through the partition of Bengal should lose his life in the enterprise. Unless he abandoned every attempt to assert the authority of the State, his action was certain to bring him into very unpopular prominence. But it seemed to me to be wiser to face this difficulty than to allow British rule to fall into disrepute and law-abiding people to suffer. The kind words with which Your Excellency's letter concludes encourage me to recommend two of my officers for favourable remembrance. They are Mr. Lyon, my Chief Secretary, and Mr. LeMeaurier, the Commissioner of Dacca. I am indebted to all of my officers for loyal service, but I am under a special obligation to these two gentlemen. They are both of much practical and literary ability and are devoted to the interests of the country. I should be very greatly distressed were they to be involved in my fall.

HORRORS OF THE SUNKEN TRAIN.

Further information fails to lessen the horror of the Atlantic City disaster, or materially to reduce the death list. At noon to-day fifty-one dead bodies had been recovered from the two cars, and others known to be dead bring up the list to seventy. In addition, among the forty injured, at least ten are beyond hope of recovery.

The full horror of the disaster remains in the sudden death overwhelming the family parties of pleasure seekers, who were imprisoned in the carriages and were drowned just as rats are drowned when the cage in which they have been caught is plunged into a bucket of water. It is the speediest and most humane way of destroying captured vermin, and the belief that the excursionists came to their end swiftly and without the terrors of a long death struggle is the only mitigation of the horror which the circumstances afford—for other discoveries only serve to deepen the horror.

It was found to-day that it was not an inevitable mechanical failure which caused the train to plunge from the drawbridge, but that criminal neglect and recklessness, which rendered such a result at some time inevitable, were responsible for the disaster. The interlocking mechanism connecting the rails on the swing bridge with the rails on the trestle was faulty and had always been

faulty. The rail-road people knew it was faulty to the extent that every train crossed with risk, yet they permitted it to be used.

Moreover, the trestle bridge, of which a swing bridge formed the centre, was itself a flimsy, shaking, tottering structure, which swayed under the strain of the crowds to-day when efforts were made to raise the submerged cars. It is also asserted that the air brakes on the rear car had failed to act during the run from Philadelphia.

Twenty minutes before the accident happened the drawbridge had been opened to allow the small yacht Simbad to pass. According to the statement made in his excitement after the tragedy by an old man named Dan Stewart, who is keeper and flagman of the bridge the mechanism for closing it was not exact enough for automatic alignment of the rails, and it was frequently necessary for him to use the hand windlass to make perfect the adjustment. He declares now that the bridge was properly closed and the rails properly locked; but the instability of the trestle, together with the imperfection of the lacking mechanism, is believed to furnish sufficient explanation.

The foremost car, which first plunged into the water, was raised and brought ashore at mid-day. It did not contain any more bodies, but three were found lying underneath it in the mud at the bottom of the creek.

The survivors' stories are thrilling, almost terrifying. John Keller, of Camden, is believed to be the only surviving occupant of the crowded forward car. He had chosen a front seat, in order to watch the motorman's operations. He says:

"I felt the car leave the tracks, but the series of shocks as it bumped over the ties was little worse than when it went at full speed over the rough parts of the new road. Then I felt the car falling as it plunged off the bridge. It was a sickening sensation. I recall that the whole world seemed spinning round, with gleams of water and sky and visions of strangely-wondering faces whirling past. Then there was quiet, like the quiet of the grave, until there came a splash as the car struck the water.

"Then I heard the woman's wild shrieks, followed by the roaring and rushing of water in my ears. I found myself lying in darkness in a corner of the car, but light was showing through some window within reach. I remember smashing it with my fist, feeling it break, forcing myself through the aperture, and then shooting upwards through the water to the surface, where I clutched a floating piece of wreckage, and held on until I was picked up by a boat. I don't know how long it all took, but I seem to remember that the screams of the women and children lasted only an instant before they were silenced by the water."

Among the few spectators of the catastrophe were the men in the signalbox a short distance from the bridge. Their narratives show the terrible suddenness with which death came to the occupants of the two leading cars. This is Samuel Hopkins's brief narrative:

"I saw the train coming along, and when it came to the bridge it gave a sort of twist and partly stooped. Then the two front cars dropped over and sank like stones. The third car hung over the edge a moment while the people were climbing out of the doors and windows, and then balanced over. By the time I got there, there were a lot of bubbles bursting on the surface of the water where the first two cars disappeared. I suppose every bubble represented a life. That's all I saw."

Divers fetched from Philadelphia and Camden worked all night extricating the bodies. They saw terrible sights when, smashing the windows with hammers, they managed to gain admittance into the submerged carriages. Many of the dead faces were terribly gashed, evidently in attempts to escape by the windows. One little baby's head was smashed in. At day-break all the imprisoned bodies had been recovered, brought to the surface, and taken to the Empire Building, where they were laid out for identification.

Among those early identified were one of the best-known Philadelphia doctors and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Alvan Hadders. They were going to Atlantic City to inspect a cottage which they proposed to purchase. She was wearing a thousand pounds' worth of diamonds, and her body was found in the second car with the jewelled hands raised in an attitude of prayer.

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Saturday, November 24, 1906.

A GREAT MOSLEM FESTIVAL.

THE "ID-UL-FITR."

SUNDAY last was a day of rejoicing throughout the Islamic World. In Turkey, Egypt, Arabia, Persia, Afghanistan, India, China, and all the other strongholds of Islam, no less than in such places as London and New York where the Islamic persuasion has begun to hold sway, the Id-ul-Fitr is observed as a feast-day by the entire mass of the Faithful, and enjoyed accordingly. It is the day of Charity, Brotherhood and Joy.

The duty of Charity.

Id-ul-Fitr—"The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast" or Id-ul-Sadaqah—"the Feast of Alms," as it is otherwise called, comes immediately after the month's fast in "Ramazan" is over, and consequently on the first day of the Arabic month of Shawwal. The day is specially one of alms-giving, and the day's work begins with a distribution of the alms (which are called the Sadaqat-ul-Fitr) by every one according to his means and inclination. It may be mentioned here, in passing, that apart from the obligation of this particular occasion, the duty of charity is one of the cardinal injunctions inculcated by Islam, and was repeatedly enjoined by the Prophet. "Bring out your alms," said Ibn Abbas, "for the Prophet has ordained this as a divine institution."—Vide Mishkat, Book VI, Chapter III.

In the meantime, all the Faithful, almost without exception, have robed themselves in their best and smartest, even the poorest making it a point to provide themselves with a new suit of clothes.

Prayers.

After the discharge of the pious obligation of charity, the next item of the day's programme is the offering of prayers. From early morning until 10 o'clock or later, groups of Moslems may be seen wending their way to the numerous mosques or Idgahs in the town. It may be noted that there is hardly one Moslem, literate or illiterate, who does not attend the prayers on this occasion. When the mosque is filled, the congregation, led by the Imam or priest, who is generally dressed in flowing robes and an imposing turban, recite two 'rak'ahs' of prayer. After prayers, the Imam ascends the Minbar or pulpit, and delivers the Khutbah, or oration.

The Khutbah being ended, the whole congregation raise their hands and offer a Munajat for "the remission of sins, the recovery of the sick, increase of rain, abundance of corn, preservation from misfortune, and freedom from debt." The Imam then descends to the ground, and makes further supplication for the people, the congregation saying 'Amin' (Amen) at the end of each supplication. At the close of the service, the members of the congregation salute and embrace each other, and offer mutual congratulations, and then return to their homes, and spend the rest of the day in exchanging visits with friends, in feasting and merriment.

Within the Zenanah.

As may be imagined the occasion is made the

most of by the members of the gentler sex in whose monotonous existence the festival marks an eventful day. Mrs. Meer Hasan Ali, a cultured English lady, whose "Observations on the Mussalmans of India" was published in 1832 under Royal auspices, gives the following description in her book: "The assemblies of the ladies on this festival are marked by all the amusements they can possibly invent or enjoy in their secluded state. Some receiving, others paying visits in covered conveyances; all doing honor to the day by wearing their best jewellery and most splendid dress. The Zenanah rings with festive songs and loud music, the cheerful meeting of friends, the distribution of presents to dependants, and remembrances to the poor; all is love and joy, cheerful bustle and amusement, on this happy day of festival, when the good lady of the mansion is in state to receive presents from inferiors and to grant proofs of her favour to others."

The children.

For the children the festival marks a gala day to be given up entirely and unreservedly to boisterous merriment. They make it a point to extort presents—in cash and kind—from all the elderly relations who may be available for the purpose. This particular feature of the feast bears a striking resemblance to the XMAS, and although the Moslem children have not the benefit of a recognized "Santa Claus," still they do not lag far behind in the matter of presents.

To the Faithful the day of the Id-ul-Fitr is one of the eagerly looked for events of the year. It comes as a welcome reward after a month's fasting and devotion, and perhaps no other day is so typically Moslem in its observances and ceremonies. Another year and another month of fasting will bring on the glad Id-ul-Fitr.

S. H.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE UNITED PROVINCES FOR 1905.

Of all the departments of the British Government in India, the Police department is much condemned both for its inefficiency and unpopularity. The rank and file of the service consist mainly of Indians, who are generally illiterate, and the officers, though not illiterate, are said to be the spoiled children of Britain who find an easy access to the Police service of India. It is hoped that the new police re-organisation will remove the existing evils. It is strange that when the people of India are found by the Government to be less criminal than those of England that the police should find their task here a great difficulty. Crime in India is due more to poverty than to greed. High prices and plague contributed to the increase of criminals in the year 1905 in the United Provinces. An unprecedentedly severe outbreak of plague caused the evacuation of a large number of villages offering strong temptation to crime. There was naturally an increase in the offences against property and a decrease in offences against person.

The dacoits of the United Provinces are not only notorious in that part of India, but the Bengal Police has had also to face them here. The Agra and Etah districts were said to be the home of these bad characters. Since the suppression of thaggis

these Upcountry dacoits are a terror to the peaceful inhabitants. In the year under review there was a severe outbreak of dacoity which, however, was combated by the police with much energy and success. Such of the arrested dacoits as could not be brought to justice were dealt with under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure. 14 persons of one of the gangs were convicted under section 401 of the I. P. C. There were several cases under sections 400, 402 of the I. P. C. in which 66 persons were convicted. The gang of Sheobran Singh of Umergarh in the Etah District has been broken up, and the leading members arrested and punished with transportation for life by the Sessions Court at Aligarh. Agra and Etah police claim credit for this capture.

It is with feelings of relief that we read of the progress made by the criminal tribes towards peace and order. Those of Barwars in the Ganda district of Oudh and the Bhars of the Benares division have become peaceful cultivators. Among the Bhars, a non-criminal section of the tribe is springing into existence the members of which refuse to intermarry with criminal families. As a reward, Government approves of the relaxation of the supervision over the non-criminal families.

The Government Resolution remarks: "While it is necessary to enforce discipline (in the Police Force) there is nothing more destructive to good police administration than constantly punishing the men for petty mistakes." The public are also to be protected from the petty acts of tyranny by the police.

"In many districts there was an epidemic of murders many of which appear to have been committed for totally inadequate motives." The murders numbered 501 or 96 more than in 1904. "A number of murders were committed of persons sleeping outside their houses," but no trace of them could be found "as not a single person would come forward to assist the police."

The Government Resolution says: "An increase in the number of cases of murder and culpable homicide is noticed, for which no explanation is forthcoming. For such offences it would probably be idle to seek an explanation, as they are usually the result of private and personal reasons." The Inspector General of Police remarks—"Both detection and prosecution would appear to have deteriorated, but the work was better than it appears." Such observations cannot lead to any good. They have rather a tendency to weaken the efficiency of the Police. "In Muttra the body of a man was found in the heart of the large village of Kursanda on the sacrificial altar of Debi. The throat had been cut." The murder was no human sacrifice but "the result of a family quarrel."

"In Meerut there were too horrible cases of murder in which women had been told that they must wash themselves in human blood or they would not bear children. In each case the child of a neighbour was the victim, and in one case the woman not only bathed in the child's blood but ate one of its eyes."

Such is superstition. To fight it, there must be, besides law, education.

There was a genuine case of Sati in the Sitapur district.

"One Mussamat Kousilla's husband died and was cremated. After the male members of the family had left he pyre the females approached headed by the widow,

The pyre was still burning briskly when she rushed forward and jumped on the blazing heap. She was apparently suffocated immediately and destroyed by the fire. None of the females present attempted a rescue."

Mr. Brereton, the Inspector-General of Police, writes:

This being the seventh and perhaps the last report on the administration of the police which I shall have the honour of writing a few final remarks may not be out of place. There can be, I think, no doubt whatever that the Police have improved substantially in the past decade. Old methods of working have been discarded, and instruction given in straightforward and proper methods of detection. In particular they have been taught a sound system of surveillance of criminals, in which branch of their work they were sadly deficient. I will conclude by referring to a matter which must receive steady attention. When I assumed charge of my office the first thing which attracted my attention was the general feeling of insecurity amongst the members of the force, particularly among the investigating officers. As I was told by one of my Superintendents the occupation of a Sub-Inspector was considered "nazuk" (delicate). Failure to show conviction stamped a man as an incompetent officer, and from this resulted the manipulation of reports, the bolstering up of weak cases, the tutoring of witnesses, the selection of easy cases, inaccuracies in diaries and the like, followed by a host of departmental punishments and criminal prosecutions. The promoted head constable was preferred to the directly recruited sub-inspector because he knew all the tricks of the game, whilst the latter with everyone's hand against him had little chance. Hence arose the initial failure of the Police Training School and the difficulty in procuring recruits from respectable families. It is the eradication of this feeling of insecurity and the cultivation of better relations between the police and the public, upon which the Government has steadily insisted, which has been the most important advance made in Police reform. The Police Training School is now a flourishing and popular institution. With improved prospects and security of appointment service in the police is no longer shunned, but is being eagerly sought after by men of good family and education. The relations between the police and the public have improved accordingly. Perhaps no better proof of this and of the improved tone of the force can be afforded than the manner in which the police performed their duties on the occasion of the visits of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Agra, Lucknow, Benares and Aligarh. The heavy work thrown on all grades from gazetted officers down to the city constable was performed in a cheerful, quiet and unostentatious manner and with a marked courtesy to the public which was worthy of all praise. Mr. Bramley, the Superintendent of Benares, may well be proud of the fact admitted by the leading members of society in that city and endorsed by the Press, that he has succeeded in establishing the most friendly relations between the police and the people.

It is this friendly relation that can enhance the value of the Police. Ordinarily, the police is an obstruction, not an aid, to the public. Policemen may not be rude on special occasions under special instruction. That is no test of general improvement.

LANDLORD AND TENANT AND THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

The Indian Daily News (Overland, November 22) reports:

"A suit arising from increased municipal assessment was tried in the Small Cause Court by Mr. Abdur Rahman and decided against the landlord, before a full Bench, consisting of the Chief Judge and Mr. Rahman, application was made by the plaintiff for a new trial of the case.

Baboo Jogendronath Srimani, who moved on behalf of the plaintiff, stated that Messrs. R. Scott Thompson and Co. rented a house from the plaintiff Brajo Nath Chunde

on a lease for thirty years. It was stipulated in the lease that the defendants would pay Rs. 50 per month as rent and the landlord would pay all taxes, both his and tenants' shares. The Corporation had now increased the valuation of the house, assessing it at a rent of Rs. 200 per month, instead of Rs. 50. This they were entitled to do under section 151 of the Municipal Act. The plaintiff sought to recover from the tenants the difference of owner's share of the tax, by virtue of the authority given in section 172 of the Act.

Baboo A. K. Mullick, who appeared to uphold the original judgment put in the lease and argued that by reason of the stipulation therein made, that the landlord would pay all taxes, he was debarred from asking the tenants to pay anything.

Plaintiff's pleader pointed out that at the time the lease was executed the Municipal Act then in force did not authorise the Corporation to value tenanted houses at the rent for which they could be reasonably let, but at the rent actually realised. Plaintiff, therefore, did not anticipate that there would be any increase in the amount of the tax. Supposing the valuation was increased to Rs. 500, was the landlord alone to bear the burden of the additional taxation, both for himself and the owner?

The learned Chief Judge remarked that Section 172 did not apply to the present case, as there was a specific agreement that the landlord would pay all taxes. Had the section gone on to say that a landlord could recover notwithstanding anything to the contrary, plaintiff would have a case.

The application was dismissed, and pleaders' fee allowed to the defendants."

We are afraid the plaintiff's pleader did not correctly state the law. The principle of assessment for rented premises has always been the same as it is now, namely, the probable rental. The present law, however, allows a deduction on account of repairs, &c. which the older laws did not. Still, it is not clear from the report how the municipality assessed a rented house at more than its rental. The law Sec. 151 (a), is:

"The annual value of land, and annual value of any building erected for letting purposes, or ordinarily let, shall be deemed to be the gross annual rent at which the land or building might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, less, in the case of a building, an allowance of ten per cent. for the cost of repairs and for all other expenses necessary to maintain the building in a state to command such gross rent."

Ordinarily, therefore, a house fetching a rent of Rs. 50 a month, can be assessed, for municipal purposes, at Rs. 540. To increase that valuation four times, the house must have been considerably added to or otherwise improved. In spite of the contract between the landlord and tenant, the municipality is free to raise the valuation of the house. Nothing is said about the new valuation proceedings. Was any objection taken by the landlord? His proper course was perhaps to have the correctness of the new valuation tested in the same Court in which he has proceeded against the tenant.

Having accepted that valuation, and having bound himself to pay both the shares of the rates, he is now held debarred from suing the tenant for his share of the proportionate increase allowed by the law. The reason given by the learned Chief Judge is:

"Section 172 did not apply...as there was a specific agreement that the landlord would pay all taxes. Had the section gone on to say that a landlord could recover notwithstanding anything to the contrary, plaintiff would have a case."

If the tenant had bound himself to pay both the landlord's and the tenant's shares of the rates, would the landlord be exempted from paying his share of the increased rates payable by him for increased valuation? Is any specific agreement against law valid? This specific agreement, we believe, can not override the law. The law must be supreme in courts. Supposing the lease had, by specific words, preserved the integrity of section 172 of the Municipal Act, would the suit have been dismissed? It is the same whether the lease contained such a clause or

not. The law must have its course whatever the binding, between the landlord and tenant.

Section 172 reads:

"If the annual value of any building or land...exceeds... the amount of rent payable to the owner, the owner may... recover from the person who pays him rent the difference between the sum assessed upon him as the owner's share of the consolidated rate and the sum at which he would have been assessed had the building or land been valued only at the amount of rent actually payable to him, and such difference shall be added to the rent and shall be recoverable as rent by the owner from the person liable for the payment of the rent."

It is also the law (Sec. 178):

"If any building is occupied by more than one person holding in severalty, or is valued at less than two hundred rupees, the Chairman may, notwithstanding anything contained in section 171, levy the entire consolidated rate from the owner of the building."

It is in such a case that the landlord cannot but choose to pay the tenant's share of the consolidated rate. When the tenant is only one and the valuation of the house is Rs. 200 or more, the law does not require the landlord to pay for the tenant. In the present instance the landlord has, by his own act, made himself responsible for the tenant's share of the consolidated rate. The Judge holds that the landlord, by his agreement, has placed himself beyond the law and cannot claim its benefit, further that that law does not save any infraction of it in any case. He seems to say—you having broken the law, cannot seek its protection. While keeping within the law, he allows the breach thereof.

If the increased valuation is due to the act of the tenant and unless the landlord had exhausted his claim by the rent reserved in the agreement, it is but fair that the landlord should be allowed the recovery the law sanctions. As the matter now stands, or as we understand the case from the above report, the landlord has to bear not only the increased burden of his own share of the consolidated rate but also that of the tenant. In place of Rs. 9-12 a month he has to pay Rs. 39 to the municipality, leaving only Rs. 11 as his income from the house. On this income of Rs. 132 a year, if his other income with this comes up to Rs. 1,000 or more, he will further have to pay the income tax. This seems to be an extreme case. And if the Small Cause Court be right in the interpretation of the law, surely it requires an amendment. Or, does the landlord suffer for his folly or greed?

St. Helena Oct. 31.—The British garrison here has embarked on the Cluny Castle and sailed for home, and the island is now without defence. The islanders have drifted from a state of indignation into a sort of apathy, although the disappearance of the soldiers means the loss of the islanders' chief source of subsistence. For the first time in the history of St. Helena the troops have been entirely withdrawn. St. Helena was owned from 1651 to 1834 by the East India Company. The decadence of the island dates from the opening of the Suez Canal, by which it ceased to be a port of call for ships going round the Cape. In the interior is Longwood, where Napoleon I. lived in exile from 1815 until his death in 1821. The British garrison numbered over 400.

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught will visit Burma this winter. Their Royal Highnesses will arrive at Rangoon about the middle of February, leaving there on the 2nd of March, and arrive at Calcutta on 5th on a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy. Their Royal Highnesses will leave Calcutta by sea and reach Colombo on the 18th March.

Their Royal Highnesses have received several invitations to other parts of India, but want of time precludes the acceptance of any of them.

THE Viceroy is on tour. From Kashmir he has come down to Bikanir—from the mountain to the desert. On the morning of the 22nd November, Lord and Lady Minto visited the Walter Noble's School. The Maharaja addressed the assembly, thus:

"Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen :—I am very grateful to Your Excellencies for so kindly consenting to visit this school and to distribute the prizes to the successful students and I know I am echoing the wishes of the boys and all of us present here to-day when I say how much we appreciate this honour. 'Your Excellencies, these boys are the future soldiers of the King as they have rightly styled themselves in the motto of the triumphal arch they have erected at the entrance of the compound, and I am sure this day will be treasured up in their memories, when the Viceroy of India evidenced such an interest in their welfare and future career. This school was founded in 1893 and was named after Colonel C. C. M. Walter, C.S.I., for some time a popular A.-G.-G. in Rajputana, who was very good to me when I had typhoid fever at Mount Abu in 1889, and to whom I practically owe my life. Every effort is being made to turn out boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen in the strictest sense of the words, and who, when they grow up, will be able to help in the administration of their country, and who could look after and manage their own estates also in a satisfactory manner. In my time eight old boys of this school have joined the State service and four obtained direct commissions as native officers in the Indian Army. This, and the large increase in the number of the rolls, can, I think, be described as satisfactory symptoms of the usefulness of and progress made by the school. Further remarks from me will be unnecessary on this occasion and so I would beg Your Excellency to kindly now distribute the prizes."

Lady Minto presented the prizes, consisting of books, footballs and cricket, bats. Lord Minto closed the proceedings of the day with the following words :

"Your Highness :—Before leaving I must congratulate you on the success of your school and on all we have seen to-day. It must be a sincere pleasure to you to have this striking evidence of the interest you have taken and the efforts you have made on behalf of the rising generation of the nobles and thakurs of Bikanir. I am particularly glad to hear that you are encouraging manly exercise as well as teaching the boys ordinary bookwork. I am a great believer in the old Latin proverb *mens sana in corpore sano*, and I am quite sure that to bring up boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen, and to make high ideals part of their everyday life will give them the best possible equipment for fighting the battles of the world. Any boy who in his manhood fulfils the lessons of character taught to him in this school will surely be a credit to humanity. I hope that many of these boys intend hereafter to be soldiers of the King, and nothing is more fitted to make them good soldiers than the manly spirit which it is your Highness' endeavour to implant in them here. Lady Minto and I are both very glad to have been able to attend at this prize-giving and to see for ourselves what is being done in the cause of high education in Bikanir."

THE Eastern Bengal and Assam Gazette (October 27) publishes the "draft by-laws which the Commissioners of the Shillong Station Committee propose to frame for the Station under section 357 of Act V (B. C.) 1876, in supersession of those published with Notifications No. 1253G, dated the 25th February 1893, and No. 4094F., dated the 10th October 1904.

Objections received will be considered after a month of this notification.

It seems the repealed Bengal Act V of 1876 is still in force in the Shillong Station.

THE *Empire* (Nov. 23) has the following :

"We set out below a pretty little parallel—a translation which appeared among our 'Vernacular Gleanings' on 12th November, and a telegram from Allahabad with which the 'Bengalee' thrills its many readers this morning."

Such transfers are the order of the day. Anglo-Indian papers, like Indian papers, are equal offenders in this line.

"CHUMBUDDY Ram" of "In Black and White" in the "Englishman" (Nov. 21) notes :

"The burra-sahib and the chota-sahib (and specially the latter) should make a point of returning the salutations of native servants. Politeness costs nothing and wins a lot. The otherday I saw a haughty Englishman, of the conventional type, march into his house. A troop of white-robed retainers rose and saluted respectfully, he took not the slightest notice of them, but stooped to pet a favourite dog. Last week I saw a gorgeously arrayed matron board a Kalighat tram : a babu got up somewhat sheepishly and allowed her to occupy the whole of the bench. There she adjusted her skirts to her satisfaction and then looked out of the window. A 'thank you,' with or without a smile, would have made the whole incident such a pleasing one for both the races to relate."

Again :

"Here is an instructive tale which has the additional merit of being absolutely true. A young clergyman called on the magistrate of B—, and in the course of conversation, asked how many people there were at the place. 'Oh,' said the civilian, 'about 20 or 25.' 'What!' shouted the astonished missionary. 'Yes,' said his host, 'about 25, but if you reckon C and D and E, who are not generally received into society, about thirty at the outside.' The poor padre slowly wended his way home, and to ask elsewhere for the population of the town of B—."

Both the incidents are characteristic of the Europeans in India. They do not recognize any who are not their own. The Sahib and the Memsahib both are proud of their nationality and if they tolerate the presence of the Indians, it is their kindness towards lower animals.

IN the Excise Administration, the Partition of Bengal has been no separation but union. Mr. J. F. Rankin, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Eastern Bengal and Assam, writes, on the 21st September 1906, to the Secretary to that Government in the Financial Department :

"The formation of the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, on the 16th October 1905, led to great administrative changes in the management of excise matters in the Assam portion of the new province. Unlike the fourteen transferred Bengal districts in which the excise administration had for years been under the control of the Commissioner of Excise and Board of Revenue in that province, in Assam excise in the six Assam Valley Districts had been under the control of the Commissioner of the Assam Valley Division and the Chief Commissioner, while in the Surma Valley and Hill Districts it was administered directly under the Chief Commissioner. Since the partition the administration of excise in the Assam Valley and Surma Valley Districts has been brought into line with the system existing in the Bengal transferred districts, that is to say, it has been placed under the control of a Commissioner of Excise and the Board of Revenue."

In this Report for the year 1905-06, it is stated :

"The Swadeshi movement is largely responsible for the decrease in the revenue from imported liquor in Bakarganj."

Mr. Clarke, the Collector of Mymensingh, however, reports :

"In places where there are both country spirit and imported liquor shops the consumption of imported liquor is generally on an average four times that of distillery liquor."

The Board's remark is :

"The Collectors of Chittagong and Noakhali also notice the growing tendency of people to drink imported liquor. In some districts this growing competition of imported liquor with country spirit has received a severe check from the Swadeshi movement when pressure has been put upon licensed vendors to close their shops, but this check is not likely to be more than temporary and the question is one which will have to be considered."

Paragraph 22 of the Report begins thus :

"The total quantity of ganja consumed was less according to weight by 362 maunds 31 seers (2,083 maunds 7 seers against 2,445 maunds 7 seers.)"

The difference is said to be "primarily due to the consolidation of the duties on the four different

varieties of ganja hitherto manufactured into one all round duty of Rs. 11." But how is the difference 362 maunds 31 seers is obtained by subtracting 2,083 maunds 7 seers from 2,446 maunds 7 seers? In the ordinary arithmetical calculation that difference is 363 maunds and not 362 maunds 7 seers.

If the quantity of ganja consumed was less, the receipts from it were greater than in the previous year—by 2½ lakhs. This increase is attributed to better settlements of shops and the introduction of the uniform rate of duty. When you consume less ganja, you must pay more duty, that the revenue may not suffer. It has been found that packing in ordinary fresh gunny preserves the strength of that drug the longest.

"The Commissioner of Excise points out that the consumption of opium has been steadily increasing in the Assam Valley since the year 1901-02 and that this year's increases are considerably below those which have occurred. Whatever causes have been operating, the issues of opium in this Division have fallen from 1,759 maunds in 1873-74 to 1,135 maunds in 1901-02, and since then have risen by 57, 60, 34 and 43 maunds. The Board agree with the opinion expressed by Mr. Melitus, when Commissioner of this Division, that a series of good seasons and good public health following a decade characterised by bad seasons, earthquakes, floods, kala-azar, and the general unhealthiness and decrease of the Assamese population, is sufficient to account for this increase and that it is not necessary to attribute it to any real spread of the habit of opium-eating among the garden coolies. This allegation however will be enquired into."

While accepting the causes given by Mr. Melitus, the Board is willing to enquire, for verification, we believe. The Board is anxious to point out that the increase has not come up to the old figure. There is yet a difference of 381 maunds between the figures of 1873-74 and 1905-06.

The excise revenue from opium was Rs. 89,027 more than in the year preceding. This increase was contributed almost equally by license fees (Rs. 38,225) and duty (Rs. 40,402), duty and license fees running in parallel lines.

BABOO Jogender Chunder Bose, late Deputy License Officer of the Calcutta Corporation, has been too much before the public. He was dismissed from service for using the money of the Corporation for his own purposes without causing loss to the Corporation. After he had paid back all that he owed, he was prosecuted. The Magistrate acquitted him. He was, however, convicted, after a departmental enquiry, by the General Committee. This conviction was followed by dismissal. With 25 years' service to back him, Mr. Bose applied for pension. There was a strong feeling in the Corporation. The European generally were opposed to his claim, and they left before the matter came up. Then there was not a quorum, but the meeting presided over by the Deputy Chairman then acting as Chairman considered the question of pension and sanctioned it. The Chairman of the meeting after reading the law, allowed the meeting to come to its conclusion. It was then found that the Chairman of the meeting, though opposing the grant of pension, had misread the law. So the proceedings of that meeting were expunged. The question again turned up this week. The Chairman said the Commissioners would be committing a very grave dereliction of duty if they gave a reward, as he interpreted a pension to be, to a man who was not deserving of it. There were two proposals for a compassionate allowance—one of Rs. 95 and another of Rs. 75 a month which last was carried by 18 to 4 votes.

Babu Pronaugh Mullick referred briefly to the merits of the case, and said that the Court in its judgment found that Babu J. C. Bose had not failed in his duty, and had acted bona fide. In this Corporation there was a marked difference in the treatment of white men, brown men and black men. One of their high officials, a white man, was forced to resign, and nothing more was heard about the matter. Another white man, who was also forced to resign, came forward for a certificate, and it was given to him because he was a white man. Yet again there was a third white man, who was working in his (the speaker's) district. Charges of bribery were brought against that man, and people came forward to give evidence as to the bribery. What was the result? That man got a year's furlough and went to England by a P. and O. vessel,

and probably in a short time he would return to his duty or get a pension. Was the present case a worse one than that?

Mr. Tremearne in seconding this amendment (for Rs. 75) said he did so more on behalf of the man's family than on account of the man himself. He had served them for twenty-five years, and although the speaker was not in sympathy with him in his irregularities, it must be borne in mind that he was not the only irregular man in Corporation.

London, Nov. 16. Mr. Havelock Wilson moved an amendment to the Merchant Shipping Bill, applying new air space regulations to lascars crews.

Mr. Kearnly said that Government preferred to leave the Indian Government to legislative themselves.

Mr. Lloyd George said that the amendment aimed at the exclusion of lascars, which would mean making a handsome present to German shipping.

The amendment was rejected by 248 votes to 105.

London, Nov. 15. The Federal Attorney-General has entered a suit at St. Louis against the Standard Oil Company and its seventy constituent Corporations and seven individual defendants, including Mr. John Rockefeller, asking for a declaration that the combination is unlawful on the ground that it restricts trade and aims at monopoly.

London, Nov. 19. A special article in the "Times" pleads in favour of giving assistance to, and befriending Indian students visiting England to complete their education, particularly those staying in London. English societies now undertaking the work are hampered for lack of funds and fewness of members. The writer says, "There must surely be in London many Englishmen and women who would be glad to co-operate in the work, aiming at giving Indian visitors a better understanding of English life and character, and sending them back to India with more friendly feelings toward England."

London, Nov. 19. The steamer Jennie rammed and sank the steamer Dix in Puget Sound last night. Forty-one were drowned. The Jennie rescued thirty-nine; many women and children were trapped in their cabins. The panic was terrible.

London, Nov. 20. A telegram from Pietermaritzburg says, that Mr. Tatham has given notice in the Assembly of a Resolution urging legislation to restrict and ultimately prohibit the trading of Asiatics.

London, Nov. 19. A sharp shock of earthquake along the whole coast of Westralia took place this afternoon.

London, Nov. 20. Two hundred persons, including representatives from all parts of India and Burmah, also from the Transvaal, and others interested in India, besides twenty Commoners, gave a luncheon to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji to-day to celebrate his election as President of the Indian Congress. Sir William Wedderburn presided and said they had met to wish Godspeed to Mr. Naoroji, the "Grand Old Man" of India. It was a critical juncture in India and Mr. Naoroji was needed there to set things right. Mr. Allan Hume spoke and highly eulogized their guest. Mr. Herbert Roberts, Sir Henry Cotton, and Mr. Samuel Smith also spoke. Mr. Naoroji, replying, dwelt mainly on his life in the Commons and said his reception had encouraged him in his mission, on which he went with a thoroughly impartial mind.

In the Press Price. Rs. 20. For Subscribers Rs. 16.
of
INSTITUTES.

MUSSULMAN LAW.

With references to Original Arabic Sources and
decided Cases from 1792--1906.
VOLUME I.

by
A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Esq.,

Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple,
Judge, Presidency Court of Small Causes, Calcutta. Formerly,
Member of the Faculty of Law and Syndicate of the University of
Calcutta, &c., &c.

Opinion of the Honourable Sir John Sanley, Kt., K.C., Chief
Justice, High Court, Allahabad, who has kindly inspected the
manuscript:—

"The scheme and arrangement of the book appears to me admirable; and the introduction of Arabic texts will prove a valuable addition to the text. So far as I can judge, the work will be of the greatest help to lawyers."

Calcutta:—Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.

London, Nov. 21. Details of Peary's voyage show that his failure to reach even a higher latitude was due to a storm opening great lanes of water behind him, cutting off the possibility of support from relief parties. Consequently he made an independent dash but when on the 21st April, he reached 87.06, the provisions were almost exhausted and he decided to return, after planting signs on the high ice pinnacles.

London, Nov. 21, 2-25 p.m. (Via Teheran). Commander Peary, on board the "Roosevelt," has reached St. George's Bay, Newfoundland, after nearly being wrecked in a hurricane coming from Labrador, and being obliged to dismantle the interior of his ship for fuel.

London, Nov. 22. Mr. Morley to-day received a Transvaal Indian Deputation, similar to that received on the 8th instant. The proceedings were private, but it is understood that Mr. Morley made a long and sympathetic speech, and declared "the Transvaal Ordinance places the bar sinister on millions of our fellow subjects." A strong British Committee will carry on the agitation.

London, Nov. 22. The upper part of a distillery at Glasgow collapsed, and seventy thousand gallons of hot spirit flooded the street to a depth of two feet; one man was killed and ten injured.

PUBLISHERS AND THE BOOK CLUB.

The London "Times" of the 1st instant has the following under the above heading:—

Two documents bearing upon the "Times" Book Club controversy of such exceptional significance as to call for a few words of comment were brought yesterday under the consideration of our readers. One summarizes the replies so far received from members of the Book Club to questions intended to elicit their opinions upon the issue. The result is as remarkable as it is gratifying, since it shows a practical unanimity in approval of the course taken by the Book Club which it would be optimistic to count upon beforehand in the case of any body of men of equal magnitude upon almost any question. The action of the publishers' Association in attempting to restrict the sale of second-hand books is disapproved by 94.21 per cent; 96.9 per cent desire that the Book Club should offer determined resistance to those publishers who are leading the attack; 96.89 per cent. promise to support the action of the Book Club by for the present asking for as few as possible of the forthcoming books issued by the publishers who are leading the attack; 81.44 per cent say they have bought more books during the past year than they would have bought if the Book Club had not existed; 95.69 per cent. say that there is no considerable proportion of the books they have bought in classes B and C which they would otherwise have bought, new, from any bookseller.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

President.

Shastri Gopal Chandra Sirkar, M.A., B.L.

Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

Dr. Hem Chandra Ray Chaudhuri, L.M.S.

Assistant Secretary.

Panoli Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna.

Treasurer.

Babu Amulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Sarada Prasanna Chaitopadhyay
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vrkshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

If the publishers think themselves so securely entrenched in their monopoly that they can afford to alienate the sympathy and incur actual hostility of this considerable section of the cream of the book-reading and book-buying public, of course that is their own affair of a totally different body of men whose interests are not nearly so well protected. It is the affair of the authors who have parted with a large share of control over the monopoly which is theirs by law. They are deprived of profits from the very considerable sales of their books which the Book Club effects even when other agencies fail. What may be even worse for them in the long run, they are deprived of the publicity which is to them what credit is to a merchant. The smaller their sales and the more restricted their reading public, the worse will be the terms they can command for their next book. The very publisher who has injured them will be the first to quote the disastrous effect of his own policy as a reason for squeezing them harder than before. Worst of all, he will have facts on his side; since as a matter of fact the author's book value will be less than it would have been had his previous work been read and sold by and to a larger public. Every other publisher will estimate his value upon the same reduced basis; and, if he has any faculty for penetrating to the causes of things, it will be a warning to him to know that his position would have been different had he been wise enough to insist that his publishers should not injure his interests in playing the selfish game of the publishers' Association. The second category of these replies has a different bearing. It proves that publishers and authors have gained from the Book Club the advantage of the sale of more books during the past year than would have found buyers had the Book Club not existed. At what price the books were sold does, not matter to either author or publisher, since both have performed out of each book sold all that they demanded or could expect in any case. It is further shown that no considerable proportion of the books sold secondhand would in any event have been bought new from a bookseller. Therefore the booksellers have not been injured, while the authors have gained by reaching a larger number of readers.

The other interesting document published by us yesterday relates the history of the book litigation in the United States. There the American Publishers' Association did exactly what the Publishers' Association is doing here. The public must note with no little amusement that men who declaim virtuously against "American methods" are themselves using methods so ultra-American that they are not tolerated by the American Courts; and that people who try to scare the public with the fantastic bogey of an impossible monopoly in an unimaginable future are themselves putting on the last turn of the screw of a tyrannous monopoly in the actual present.

But in truth the methods of the publishers are Oriental rather than American. They are those of the wily Pathan who parleys amicably with an ambassador and drives a dagger into his back as he turns away. They negotiated with the Book Club on May 9. They were smooth of speech, they admitted that the net-book agreement had been loyally observed, they made no serious fight about second hand books, they accepted the Book Club definition of such books, and, in short, an amicable agreement was verbally reached though not put in writing. Nothing more was heard from the publishers until July 30, when, without a word of warning, came their ultimatum ignoring everything that had previously been agreed to. Why all this? Simply because on May 9 it was desirable to create a feeling of security, while on July 30 they knew that the Book Club stood committed to many new and extended engagements. They thought they had it in a corner and could deal a smashing blow. Well, the blow has not smashed the Book Club, but it has deprived many authors of profits which they would otherwise have enjoyed, it has reduced the printing and bookbinding trades to the state of depression from which the Book Club was raising them, and it has done no good even to the retail booksellers, but, according to the testimony of a Public Librarian in our columns to-day, has actually injured them. But there is some good to set against all this evil. The rottenness of the system bolstered up by the Publishers' Association has been thoroughly exposed, the mysteries which have afflicted the imagination of authors too dignified or too lazy to look into the simple facts that concern them have been dispelled, and the public has got some insight into the ways by which its desire for books at reasonable prices is systematically balked. The publishers' one aim is to keep up and even increase the price of books in days when production has been enormously cheapened and when the reading public, or the public that is waiting to be allowed to read and to buy, has been increased a hundred-fold. The offence of the Book Club is that its operations tend to cheapen books, and to show the absurdity of the preposterously inflated prices which the publishers maintain by highly artificial restrictions even when the book is one which nobody would ever want to look at a second time. Dr. Shadwell has shown, in the latest of his admirable articles, how grievously this system presses upon those who desire to possess and study books of serious in-

terest, and also how large among all classes, and not least among artisans, is the public which would buy books if prices were not prohibitive. It is among that vast potential public of bookbuyers, not among the favoured minority of wealthy people, that authors would reap their richest rewards. They can begin to reap them as soon as they drop the practice of selling their birthright for a mess of pottage and handing over their monopoly to the control of a class wedded to old-world traditions. In the meantime they can do a good deal to increase their incomes by insisting that their publishers shall fight the battle of obstruction and restriction at their own charges and not at the cost of the author, whose only interest is that as many of his books should be sold as possible.

THE DYING FAITH-HEALER.

ALLEGED BOGUS MRS. EDDY.

New York, Oct. 28.

The New York "World," after investigation, prints a circumstantial story to the effect that Mrs. Eddy, the founder of Christian Science, is at the point of death from cancer, that for the last three years she has been virtually a prisoner in her own house, unseen except by the inner ring of Christian Scientists, who hold her under complete domination, and that practically the whole of the enormous wealth obtained from the contributions of world-wide believers and the sale of her books has mysteriously disappeared.

Scientist pilgrims to Concord, who go there from all parts of the English-speaking globe are denied access to the fine mansion which is the high priestess's shrine, but their faith is encouraged and their curiosity gratified by the daily sight in the quaint streets of the little town of an old-fashioned carriage drawn by two black horses to whose sole occupant—a deedly seen, old, white haired lady, in an ermine robe—they do reverence as she passes, believing that she is Mrs. Eddy.

It is asserted that it is not Mrs. Eddy, but a Mrs. Parmelin

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IMPRESSIONS OF A WANDERER.

Leonard, who is made up in a white wig and with her face painted to resemble her. This is done, it is said, because Mrs. Eddy being not only the head of the Church, but the whole substance of the Christian Scientist faith, her disappearance would mean the crumbling of the organisation, the stoppage of contributions, and the collapse of the whole swindle. So that in order to keep the concern going, the "dummy" is daily paraded in the Concord streets, elaborate precautions being taken to prevent inspection close enough to reveal the deception.

It is alleged that the head of the gang of designing persons who have gained complete control over the affairs and finances of the Church from the enfeebled, decrepit old woman who was once the master mind of the whole deception is Mr. Calvin A. Frye, Mrs. Eddy's footman, who also acts as secretary, commands the household, receives pilgrims, transacts business, guides the shaking hand with which Mrs. Eddy signs documents, and occupies the combined positions of prime minister and gooler.

When callers come, he appears in a secretarial black coat, and with bland manner assures them that the prophetess is too occupied to be seen. But he affects to act as intermediary, and delivers mystic pronouncements and receives contributions. In the afternoons, when the supposed Mrs. Eddy is paraded for the benefit of the faithful around the town, Frye is dressed in footman's livery and seated by the side of the driver. It is alleged that his foot rests on a lever whereby he warns the bogus prophetess inside whenever it is necessary to take precautions to prevent herself being too closely scrutinised by some intrusive and over-curious spectator.

The bogus Mrs. Eddy, though in a closed carriage with the windows usually closed, with her face carefully painted to resemble, and with a white wig exactly imitating Mrs. Eddy's striking hair, carries always in her hand a small parasol, with which, when the footman signals the appearance of some unwelcome inquisitor, she shields her face.

Despite all precautions, a Brooklyn man who was well acquainted with Mrs. Leonard when she became notorious in connection with healing operations in that suburb succeeded by a ruse in getting a good, close view of the ermine-robed occupant of the carriage, and has made an affidavit that beneath the wig and paint he positively recognised the familiar features of Mrs. Leonard.

Newspaper investigators, by confronting Frye with affidavits bearing upon the finances of the Church and certain incidents in his career, succeeded in compelling him to arrange that they should see Mrs. Eddy face to face. They give a pathetic account of the interview with the old woman, who is in the last stage of mental and physical decrepitude. She had, they say, to be stimulated with drugs and by the application of a powerful galvanic battery in order to give her sufficient strength to receive them. She barely managed to stand long enough to be recognised and to gabble a few incoherent, wandering words before the footman-secretary carried her back to the room which is practically her prison.

The real Mrs. Eddy's last public appearance, it is said, was three years ago, when for a moment she posed on the balcony of her house, Pleasant View, before an assembled crowd of the faithful. Since then it is doubtful whether she has ever left the house.

Of the enormous sums of money Mrs. Eddy has received no trace can be found. Her estimated fortune was three million pounds, and for many years her income aggregated a quarter of a million annually. But all seems to have entirely disappeared.

One member of the inner ring is her cousin, Mr. Frederick N. Ladd, who is secretary of the Concord Loan Trust Savings Bank, and acted for many years as her financial agent. He has accounted for the disappearance of the wealth by saying that she expended the bulk of it in charities, but the only record of charitable expenditure discoverable is about a hundred year disbursed in buying new boots for poor Concordians.

The newspaper investigators add to their revelations a remarkable story of how, while pursuing their inquiries, they were dogged by Frye's emissaries, who endeavoured by various means to gain possession of various important documents bearing on the case. On one occasion they endeavoured on some pretext to lure them into an ambush, where a gang of Christian Scientists was waiting to rob and perhaps murder them. They insert a description of Mrs. Eddy when the reporters were permitted to see her in order to prove that she is still alive :

"She was on her feet in the centre of the room, her hands on the edge of a table. She looked more dead than alive. She was a skeleton, the hollow cheeks covered with thick red paint, the fleshless, hairless bones above the sunken eyes pencilled jet black, the features thick with powder. The air of the room rocked with powerful simulants, and in the corner stood a galvanic battery with the sponge still wet from recent use."

Not the least interesting of the revelations is the statement that, notwithstanding faith-healing teachings Mrs. Eddy is daily attended by a Boston physician.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smiths Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corle K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot" in its pamper days under Kristonas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his life and letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulty common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression on Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arden.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The Pioneer (Calcutta), Oct. 5, 1895.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,247.

ZENGI.

The sword you gaze upon my child,
Thine eyes with eager passion scan ;
Has flashed amid the tempest wild,
Where Zengi led the Muslim van ;
The jewelled hilt whose rays of fire
Might scorn the glory of the sun,
The tempered blade whose touch of fire
Made streams of deepest crimson run ;
Unmatched on many a field of fight,
But dimmed in many a battle won ;
It made and unmade many a knight,
For it was Zengi's own, my son.
Methinks I see his streaming crest,
Like snow-white foam upon the wave,
Where'er the thronging squadrons prest,
Amid the bravest of the brave.
Listen ! and I will tell you, lad,
The story of a soldier true.
No abler chief for combat clad,
Nor better brand in danger drew ;
When but a youth of fourteen years
Sages revered his comely form.
He led his father's cavaliers
In summer calm and winter storm ;
His early days foretold renown,
Predestined by the hand of fate,
Princes upheld his youthful crown
Until he grew to man's estate.
It was a time of bitter strife,
Of bruiling day and night alarms,
Murder and plunder both were rife,
And every Emir slept in arms ;
Crusaders from the ferrine west,
Imbued with mad religious hate,
Were rushing in frantic zeal,
The Muslim to annihilate.
For Baldwin's brow the diadem
Of Palestinian empire bound,
The Kingdom of Jerusalem,
And hallowed Bethlehem's holy ground.
Their legions reached Diyar-bekir,

And surged around Damascus wall,
And Syrian blood besprent the spear
In fair Edessa's palace hall ;
And rapine followed in their path,
The pestilence that famine bears,
Haran and Sidon felt their wrath,
And Tyre and Tripolis were theirs ;
No lance to stay the fearful scourge,
Where Kedron's fairy waters flashed,
Nor champion's voice the Muslims urge
Where the Orontes droning dashed ;
In vain the people sought relief
From fierce oppression's blighting breath ;
And overcome by fear and grief,
Even the doughtiest prayed for death ;
But all was changed when Zengi first
In battle couched Islamic spear,
And over the Orontes burst
On his victorious career.
His eyes with battle fire aglare,
His swarthy cheek with triumph flushed ;
That blade, Damascus made, was bare,
And with the blood of foemen blushed.
I saw him on Tiberias plain,
In youthful ardour lead the van,
When blood distilled like winter rain,
And Mandud led the Mussulman,
'Twas there he played a knightly part,
And won his spurs on tented field,
And earned the love of every heart
That homage will to valour yield,
'Mid western knight and Frankish peer,
And Syria's martial Emirs keen,
No more renowned cavalier
Than gallant, young, Imad-ed-din.
I saw his mettled couriers prance,
His banners with the Khalif lined,
When Dubey's and his Arab lance,
On billows swept, incarnadined ;
With daring heart Antar, the brave,
Against him sped in proud array :
To break in pieces, wave on wave,
The finest swords of Araby.
I seem to see him once again
Breasting the billows of that sea,
Beneath him dead and dying men :
The Arab's choicest chivalry ;
Before the Sultan's eye that hour,
Of gentle deed and courtly grace,

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It was not there he made his name,
But by the Jordan's rippling wave ;
It was not there undying fame
Her wreath of greenest laurel gave ;
It was not there he was revered,
But by Orontes turbid tide ;
It was not there his name was feared,
But on the Jordan's western side ;
He was the first the torch to light,
And bled the European pause ;
The first to meet the Christian might
As champion of the Muslim cause.
I think I see the chieftain now,
By dark Atharib's lofty keep,
The thunders lowering on his brow,
His eyes where lurid lightnings sleep.
I saw the warlike passion rise
Upon his brow as morning light !
I saw the fury in his eyes,
As lightning's thro' the darkest night !
The turbans glittered on the plain,
Amid the hills the battle flags ;
The eagles swooping in our train
Forsook their cryes on the crags.
We challenged and the foe replied,
And long withstood us man to man,
For they were warriors picked and tried,
Of Normandy and Frankistan.
We met defiance with our mines,
And mangonels the turrets swept,
Closer and closer drew our lines,
Day after day we nearer crept.
Unto their aid with all his might
Jerusalem's Christian sovereign came,
He knew those sparks of transient light
Were heralds of devouring flame ;
They came to meet us ; 'twas the choice
Of Prince and baron, banneret ;
And we, aroused by Zengi's voice,
For the assault impatient tret.
The cry, " Give them a taste of Hell !"
Was answered from the frowning rock ;
And then against the infidel
Our coursers bounded to the shock ;
Into that sea of steel we rode,
As rivers pouring forth in flood
Our blades a brighter crimson showed
Than ever sprung from slavish blood ;
Onward, as speedy as the wind,
Charge after charge the Emir led ;
They rank before us, and behind
Ruin a tragic glory spread ;
The falchions leapt in tongues of flame
Where'er our Arab coursers trod,
The bodies of our foes became
The scabbards of the swords of God !
But few escaped the martyr's crown
Amid the Frank and Norman peers ;
The solemn, silent stars looked down
On red Atharib's rayless spears.
The Crescent of the Seljuks
Was floating over every height,
The song of victory on the breeze,
The clarion of the Islamite,
You yet may know the battlefield,

For bones are crumbling there to dust,
And riven helm and battered shield
Are lying there defaced with rust.
Edessa, lad, his glory made ;
He toyed with Amid, to beguile
The spears of Jocelin ; so deluded
His march at Amid's gates awhile.
Deceived, they went, an erring band,
And scarce defended left the town,
And we departed by command
To haul Edessa's crosses down ;
As reapers in the field of death,
As brother Muslims side by side,
To guard the honour of the Faith,
To bear the brunt, and turn the tide.
Onward to reap the swatches we went,
Onward to pass the foemen's flank,
Unloosed rein and body bent,
Bridle by bridle, rank on rank ;
Line after line the horsemen go,
And head by head the chargers run,
With spears and turnans row on row,
It was a wondrous sight, my son.
The Sun of Islam rose again,
And on our banners flashed success ;
We met the Franks in their domain,
And paid them for their wickedness ;
We stormed Edessa town at last,
And vengeance whetted every blade.
For every insult of the past,
A shambles of the place we made ;
We should have razed it to the ground,
Its turrets with the desert laid,
Destroyed its ramparts ; but the sound
Of Zengi's voice the slaughter stayed,
Our Emir's valour thro' the lands
Was bruited by the Muslim's lips,
And unto distant western strands
Was carried by the Christian ships.
And yet they slew him, slew the man
Who from oppression gave relief ;
No more his eye the battle scan ;
They slew him ! Sle wour peerless chief !
No more in front his turban shine ;
'Th' assassin's dagger pierced his breast,
No more his lance will lead the line,
Nor sabre scourge the seething west.

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by
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Saturday, December 1, 1906.

COSMOGONY—OLD AND NEW.

By old cosmogony we understand the Nebular Hypothesis of Laplace. It is an hypothesis first suggested by Sir William Herschel in a paper read before the Royal Society on June 20, 1811, though the terms of it may be found in Kant's "General Natural History and Theory of the Heavens," printed in 1755. It was developed by Laplace, with whose name it came to be associated.

The hypothesis assumes that originally all suns were in a nebulous or ultragaseous state. The nebulous matter from which they were originally formed was at first scattered pretty uniformly through all space, but ultimately began to gravitate towards certain centres. The particles moving towards these centres not doing so with equal velocities or in the same direction, rotation would be established in the entire nebulous mass, and the spherical form produced. If, by radiation of heat, the condensed body still further contracted, its velocity would increase. If the centrifugal force overcame that of gravity, a ring would be thrown off, which would gradually become globular, in fact it would be a planet with an orbit almost or quite circular, moving in a plane nearly that of the central body's equator and revolving in its orbit in the same direction in which the central globe rotated. Further contraction producing increased velocity, ring after ring would be cast off, till the central body or sun generated a whole system of planets revolving around it. They, in turn, might in the same way produce satellites. Laplace believed that the sun thus produced our earth and the other attendant planets. On this hypothesis, the rings of Saturn were produced by Saturn himself, and have remained in the annular form instead of condensing into nearly spherical satellites.

The serious question that arises after a critical view of the nebular theory is, the necessity of the hypothetical conjecture of our solar system. In answer, it may be said, that there is order and method in the work. How that order and method can possibly come unless we conceive of a theory of the genesis of our solar system? There are remarkable features which point to some common origin of our universe.

The first great fact to which we refer in the common direction in which the planets revolve around the sun. This is true not only of the great planets Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; it is also true of the host of more than two hundred small planets. All these bodies perform their revolution in the same direction. It is also extremely remarkable that all the great planets and many of the small ones have their orbits very nearly in the same plane, and nearly circular in form. Viewed as a question in probabilities, we may ask what the chance is that out of two hundred and fifty bodies revolving around the sun all shall be moving in one direction. If the direction of movement were merely decided by chance, the probability against such an arrangement is of stupendous magnitude. It is represented by the ratio of unity to a number containing about sixty figures, and so we are at once forced to the conclusion that this remarkable feature of the planetary motions must have some physical explanation. In a minor degree this conclusion is strengthened by observing the satellites.

The convincing evidence is the fact that our sun is a star, and as such it is only one of the millions of stars that we see every night in a clear sky. The stars have nebulae. By nebula we understand a slight cloudy patch of light retaining its form unchanged except under keen and long continued observation. When greatly magnified some are found to be composed of many thousand remote stars, others remaining only as diffused masses of light. Sir William Herschel divided them into six classes:

1. Clusters of stars, globular or irregular in form.
2. Resolvable nebulae, which look as if they might be resolved into stars under powerful telescopes.

3. Nebulae which look quite irresolvable.
4. Planetary nebulae, circular or slightly oval, like a planetary disk, and often coloured.
5. Stellar nebulae, *i.e.*, those having in their middle a condensation of light.
6. Nebulous stars.

More than five thousand nebulae, or star-clusters closely resembling them, have been found in both hemispheres, and in nearly every constellation. A few, as the great nebulae of Orion, Argo, Navis, and Andromeda, are visible on very clear nights to the naked eye; the rest are telescopic. The great nebula of Orion surrounds a multiple star; Theta Orionis, consisting of six, apparently revolving round their common centre of gravity. It has been found to alter its form slightly. The late Earl of Rosse and his assistant, Mr. Storey, detected in its densest part multitudes of minute stars, but the bluish light of parts of it has remained irresolvable, and Dr. Huggins has ascertained by means of spectrum analysis that this portion of it is a gaseous body, containing hydrogen, nitrogen, and an unidentified substance. The nebula in Andromeda is different, and may perhaps be wholly resolved into stars.

Many persons supposed that the resolution of various nebulae into stars was necessarily fatal to the nebular hypothesis, but the discovery that some are not only irresolvable, but can be actually proved by spectrum analysis to consist of glowing gas has re-established it upon a firmer basis than ever, though the original theory may need revision in points of detail.

Sir W. Herschel points out the evolution of these nebulae into stars.

Herschel begins by showing us that there are regions in the heavens where a faint diffused nebulousity is all that can be detected by the telescope. There are other nebulae in which a nucleus can be just discerned, others again in which the nucleus is easily seen, and still others where the nucleus is a brilliant star-like point. The transition from an object of this kind to a nebulous star is very natural, while the nebulous stars pass into the ordinary stars by a few graduated stages. It is thus possible to enumerate a series of objects beginning at one end with the most diffused nebulousity and ending at the other with an ordinary fixed star or group of stars. Each object in the series differs but slightly from the object just before it and the object just after it. It seemed to Herschel that he was thus able to view the actual changes by which masses of phosphorescent or glowing vapour became actually condensed down into stars. The condensation of a nebula could be followed in the same manner as we can study the growth of the trees in the forest, by comparing the trees of various ages which the forest contains at the same time.

The worst that was said against the evolution of nebulae into stars is that the transmutation has never been observed. But it should be admitted that the periods of time required for such changes are so vast that the observation of a century or two cannot refute the inevitable transmutation.

After this observation by the unbelievers of a cosmogonic theory, a new fact was brought to light.

With telescopes we are now watching and photographing the actual birth of a new system, which may eventually develop into a finished form resembling that of the solar system in which we live.

This wonder has made its appearance in the constellation Perseus. That part of the sky, like all other parts, had frequently been photographed, and, while the photographs showed thousands of stars too faint to be visible to the naked eye scattered about, nothing but blank darkness existed at the spot where the new star subsequently burst into view.

The last of these photographs was made on February 19th (1901). On the night of February 21st an astronomer was engaged to see a flaming new star in the constellation Perseus.

The most interesting part of the observation is the subsequent changes:

After the new star has blazed for a few weeks with extraordinary splendour it began to fade rapidly. In a few months it was practically invisible to the naked eye. But while it faded a new appearance began in place of the star a nebula slowly came into view.

The first intimation of the change was given by the spectroscope, which showed that the lines characteristic of stars were disappearing while the lines which belong only to nebulae were becoming prominent.

But suddenly in November, it was found that the new nebula had taken on a most wonderful and significant form; it had assumed a shape strikingly like that in which our own solar system must have appeared before it had condensed into planets which now exist.

In the centre is a bright, comparatively condensed mass, like that from which the sun was formed. Surrounding this are vast partially formed rings, like those out of which the earth and the other planets were shaped.

More surprising yet, some of these rings show condensations, or places of inferior brightness, which suggest a tendency to break up and to become separate globular bodies, which is precisely what happened with the nebulous rings that originally, according to the celebrated theory of Laplace, existed round our sun.

But there is another marvel yet to be related, that, in some respects, casts all those that have been already been set forth into shade.

On November 11th, it was announced that the new nebula in Perseus was actually in motion, and that its rate of motion had been measured!

The bright condensed points previously spoken of were seen to have changed their places on the successive photographs made of the nebula, and the extent of the change amounted on the south-eastern edge of the nebula to no less than a minute of arc in the course of six weeks.

A minute of arc is a term relating to angular measurement, and to understand it we must turn it into miles. To do this accurately, we should have to know the exact distance of the nebula which we do not know. We can only say, with regard to that, that it appears to be so distant that no exact measurement is possible. It is probably as far away as the average of the stars, that is to say, its distance is hundreds and possibly thousands of billions of miles—a billion being reckoned as a thousand millions.

Assuming that the distance of the nebula is one thousand billion miles, the motion discovered can not be less swift than 78,000 miles in a second!

This is simply overwhelming. The swiftest motion ever observed among the stars amounts to only about 200 miles in a second. And, even if we suppose the distance of the nebula to be but a tenth of that assumed, the motion would still be thousands of miles in a second!

In fact, the bright clouds seem in this wonderful nebula are flying with a velocity that can almost be compared with that of light itself, for light moves 186,000 miles in a second, which is not greatly more than twice as fast as the nebula has moved, if its distance from us is a thousand billion miles.

A new cosmogony is in the air in the last few years. This attempt is only a modification of Laplace's Nebular Hypothesis. In the September number of "Knowledge" Mr. J. E. Gore writes:

We see in the heavens numerous forms of nebulae—spiral nebulae, planetary nebulae, &c.—but there is no real example of a ring nebula. Those which have been termed 'annular nebulae' are most probably spiral nebulae seen foreshortened. Of the numerous nebulae recently discovered with the Crossby reflector at the Lick Observatory it has been found that a large proportion are spiral, and that practically all the spirals are lenticular or disc-shaped. Many of them are relatively very thin.

At one time the photographs of the great nebula in Andromeda were thought to show signs of ring formation, but Dr. Roberts, describing his photograph of this wonderful nebula, says:

'That this nebula is a left-handed spiral and not annular as I at first suspected, can not now be questioned; for the convolutions can be traced up to the nucleus, which resembles a bright star at the centre of the dense surrounding nebula. Even the 'ring nebula' in Lyra, which is sometimes adduced as an example of ring formation, was found by Professor Schaeberle, of the Lick Observatory, to be 'a two-branched spiral which commences at the central star, and in a clock-wise direction emerges on opposite sides near the minor axis.' Even the apparent ring form of this nebula seems to be fictitious. Instead of being annular in shape,

it appears to be a hollow spheroid, the ring representing the thickness of the shell. To any one who still persists in maintaining the theory of ring formation in nebulae it may be said that the whole heavens are against him.

Mathematical disproof of Laplace's ring formation was advanced by Mr. F. R. Moulton, Professor T. C. Chamberlin and Mr. John N. Stockwell. We need not enter into the Mathematical disquisition.

Apart from the actual existence of spiral nebulae of stars (and not ring formation), spectroscopy renders another assistance.

Laplace's original nebula was gaseous, and a gaseous spectrum shows bright lines. But the spectrum of the spiral nebulae is continuous, indicating that they have partially consolidated from the gaseous state. We can, therefore, easily imagine that masses might be thrown off or detached from the parent mass by the centrifugal force of the rotation. This seems much more probable than the formation of rings from a highly tenuous nebula. Photographs of spiral nebulae show us masses in the act of being detached from the spiral branches. This is particularly noticeable in the photograph of the great spiral in Canes Venatici [51 Messier], in which we see the process going on before our eyes.

The actual observation of many stars has decided that spiral nebulae is the general order for the evolution of a solar system. On this basis, Professor Chamberlin has formed his "Planetesimal Hypothesis." The first supposition is the origin of the spiral nebulae. Generally astronomers are not in favour of the view that "grazing collision" of two solid or nebulous masses or by the near approach of two bright stars could create them. Herr E. J. Wilczynski of Berlin, in the *Astrophysical Journal* of 1896 has shown that a spiral form would be assumed by a rotating gaseous mass.

Now it is a remarkable feature of spiral nebulae that the spiral branches [usually two] almost invariably issue from the central nucleus at diametrically opposite points, thus agreeing with the new hypothesis. The spiral nebulae which we see in the heavens are, of course, constructed on a colossal scale, and probably represent a stage in the evolution of star systems rather than solar systems like ours. But the principle would be the same in both cases.

The Planetesimal Hypothesis does away with the theory of shrinkage, loss of heat, and the consequent increased rotation. Without entering into details with regard to the new theory, a brief review has been adopted on the suggestion of Moulton.

Moulton shows that on this theory the resulting planets will all probably revolve round the nucleus in the same direction as the original rotation, and that the planes of their orbits 'will nearly, though not exactly coincide'; also that the orbits of the larger planets will show smaller deviations from the general plane than those of the smaller planets, like Mercury and the asteroids. This we know to be the case in the solar system. He shows that the present rotation of the sun is due to the original rotation of the mass from which it was formed, combined with the disturbance caused by the body which approached it, and that the more rapid rotation of the sun's equator is due to the same cause. He also shows that the larger the planet 'the more nearly circular in general' its orbit would be; and this also agrees with the known facts of the solar system. The orbits of the so-called 'terrestrial planets,' Mercury, Venus, the earth, and Mars, are, on the average, more eccentric than those of the large planets, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; and those of the small minor planets between Mars and Jupiter are still more so.

Further on:

According to the new cosmogony the outer portions of the matter ejected from the original body would evidently be formed from the surface portions of the star, while the matter which followed would 'come mainly from lower depths,' and would probably consist of materials of greater density. The smaller planets should, therefore, be cool and of high density, and the larger planets hot and of small density. This is also in agreement with the known facts of the solar system. The average density of Mercury, Venus, the Earth and Mars is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ (water = 1), while the mean density of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune is only 1.03, or about that of water. We know that the earth is cool, and that probably Mercury, Venus, and Mars are so also, while there is good reason to suppose that the large planets are in a highly heated condition.

On the whole Moulton concludes that 'the spiral theory is even

now a good working hypothesis.' It seems to explain satisfactorily all the observed phenomena upon which the ring theory was based, and many others which are in contradiction to Laplace's original hypothesis. 'Nothing has yet been found which seems seriously to question its validity.

BEFORE the revived rumour of Dr. Justice Mookerjee being made the Law Member has died out, another proposal of the kind of much wider scope is started. It is—"to appoint a Seventh Member for the Viceroy's Executive Council and that the new portfolio will be reserved for Indians." Is this permanent Indian Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council to be put in charge of the Foreign Department or a new Department opened for him? Those who indulge in such proposals, are so blind that they do not see the difficulties in the way. Such a consummation to be devoutly wished by Indians supposes a radical change in the constitution of the government of India. Is Mr. Morley prepared for such a gigantic task? While deeply regretting the Partition of Bengal, he had to accept it as a settled fact. Then, perhaps, we will be told that he can create, if not uncreate, a settled fact. Probably, the Swadeshi movement, which has yet to be a settled fact, is responsible for the new ideas.

On the transfer of India from the Company to the Crown, the Act for the better government of India created the office of the fifth principal Secretary of State who was to exercise the power, of the Court of Directors and the Board of Control. The Partition of Bengal is to be associated with the seventh or the permanent Indian member of the Governor-General of India's Executive Council. Number five or the pentad is everything; it stops the power of poisons, and is redoubted by evil spirits. That was also the number of the Governor-General's Executive Council. It has recently been increased to the fortunate number six. The present demand is for the next number Seven, which is powerful for good or evil, besides being sacred.

THE meeting of the Lieutenant Governor's Council fixed for this day, has, by direction of the President, been postponed to Saturday, the 15th December. The reason given is that there is no legislative business ready, and that a meeting cannot be held under the Indian Councils Act, 1892, merely for the purpose of answering questions.

THE Lieutenant Governor returned from his tour yesterday. Those who awaited him at the Sealdah Railway Station must have had a trying time, for the train was late by more than one hour.

FOLLOWING the Calcutta Corporation, the Scots, at last night's St. Andrew's Dinner, curtailed their speeches. Besides the royal toasts, there were only six others, namely, the Viceroy, the Imperial Forces, the Pious Memory, the Lasses, the Land O'Cakes, and Our Guests. Sir Andrew Fraser, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, had charge of the Pious Memory. He gave the story of St. Andrew's Cross in the following words:

"I have no doubt, however, that all Scotsmen here well know the story of the vision of St. Andrew's Cross in the heavens over the field where one of the critical battles of our very ancient Scottish history was to be fought the following day. The Picts and the Scots had often fought against each other; but they were now drawn together by a common danger. Athelstane of England was marching against them to wrest from them the land they loved. They made common cause against the invader. On the night before the battle, the Cross of St. Andrew was seen by the Scots King in the heavens. He related the story of the vision to his ally; and it was accepted by the two Kings and their followers as an omen of victory. Next day their armies drove the invader back; and they determined that the white Cross of St. Andrew, as it had appeared in the sky on that dark and anxious night, should be borne on their ensigns and banners. From that time forward the St. Andrew's Cross has floated over Scotsmen; and, as the Poet says, the memory is ever fresh—

Of Wallace wight,

And Bruce well skilled to lead the fight,

And cry 'St Andrew and our right'!

The rights and liberties and patriotism of Scotland have ever since been associated with St. Andrew."

In Broughton's Historical Dictionary of All Religions we find:

"This apostle (St. Andrew) became the tutelary saint of Scotland, on the following occasion. Athelstan, King of England, to whom Alared granted Northumberland having invaded the Picts, who then inhabited the south of Scotland, and overtaking their King Hungus at Haddington, about 20 miles from the borders, the Picts, being inferior in strength, kept a strong guard all night, while Hungus betook himself to prayer; after which, falling asleep, he thought he saw the apostle St. Andrew standing by him, and promising him victory. Having declared this vision to the people, they were inspired with courage for the battle; which was no sooner begun, than St. Andrew's cross (as they pretend) appeared in the air in the form of an X, which so terrified the English, and animated the Picts, that the latter obtained a signal victory, and slew Athelstan on the place of battle, which to this day bears the name of Athelstan's ford.

The Scots, who succeeded the Picts, thought they had a right likewise to the protection of their saint; and accordingly Achaius, King of Scotland, instituted an order of Knighthood in honour of St. Andrew."

THE Punjab Government has replied to the letter of the Indian Association, Lahore, requesting sanction under section 196, Cr. P. C., to bring a prosecution against the Editor, Proprietor and Publisher of the 'Civil and Military Gazette' under sections 153A and 505 of the Indian Penal Code, for having recently published certain letters considered by the applicants inflammatory and objectionable.

"I am to say that the tone of some of the letters you refer to is objectionable and His Honour the Lieutenant Governor regrets that the 'Civil and Military Gazette' should have published them.—After consulting his legal advisers, however, His Honour is not prepared to give permission to prosecute."

Probably, the Punjab Government thinks the expression of its opinion on the character of the letters is sufficient warning to the "Gazette" to behave better in the future. It further considers or is advised that the conduct of the journal has not been such as to require the enforcement of the new or amended provisions of the Indian Penal Code. Not having found the letters inflammatory or tending to promote enmity between classes, and therefore itself not taking any action, it cannot allow a private body to set the law in motion. The Local Government reserves to itself the right to initiate proceedings in such cases.

The Magistrate of Lahore has also no information that, within his jurisdiction there is any person who, in the "Civil and Military Gazette" disseminates or attempts to disseminate, or in any wise abets the dissemination of any matter the publication of which is punishable under section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code.

In the view of the Punjab Government, the "Civil and Military Gazette" is not evidently as great an offender as the "Punjabee."

AT the special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, on Wednesday, the Hon'ble Mr. R. C. Pal charged the Hon'ble Mr. C. G. H. Allen, the Chairman, with breaking the new rule of 10 minutes or his promise not to take up more than 7 minutes, for he addressed the meeting for 7 and 20 minutes. Then the Chairman adjourned the meeting for want of a quorum, saying that the next speaker, Mr. K. C. Palit had talked the house out.

THERE is reaction as regards Establishment in the Corporation. For some time, since the days of Mr. Greer, the expenditure on this head has multiplied rapidly. On this growth, Mr. Allen said—there was no doubt that that expenditure required careful watching. The Deputy Chair-

man and himself were perpetually upon the watch for opportunities of cutting down the establishment and some improvements had been effected in that direction.

The Deputy Chairman himself is such a growth—appointed by the Local Government. The present law which brought him in, is—

"The Local Government may, if it appears to it to be expedient so to do, appoint a proper person to be Deputy Chairman of the Corporation."

Before the Act came into operation, the Deputy Chairman was appointed, to double the Civilian rule in the Corporation.

TWENTY-THOUSAND copies of the following Notice, dated 19th September 1906, are being circulated By Order, by the Officiating Secretary to the Corporation.

Notice is hereby issued under Section 430 of Act III (B.C.) of 1899, directing that on and after the 1st October 1906, no house-refuse, rubbish or offensive matter accumulating in any premises shall be deposited on any of the following public streets of Wards VII and XII and all the public streets, lanes, bye-lanes of Wards VIII, IX, X and XI, between 8 A.M. and 1 P.M. and between 3 P.M. and 7 P.M.---

1. Aga Kurbulla Muhammed Street.
2. Amratala Lane.
3. Amratala 2nd Lane.
4. Amratala Street.
5. Armenian Lane.
6. Armenian Street.
7. Babu Lal Lane.
8. Bonfield Lane.
9. Canning Street.
10. Chitpore Road (Lower) from its junction with Canning Street to its junction with Machua Bazar Street.
11. China Bazar Lane.
12. Chitpore Road (Lower) 3rd Lane.
13. Cotton Street.
14. Chitpore Road (Lower) 4th Lane.
15. Cross Street.
16. Commercial Buildings.
17. Cross Street Bye-lane.
18. Gobinda Chandra Dhar Lane.
19. Harrison Road.
20. Hanumanjee Lane.
21. Jackson Lane.
22. Khongrapati Street.
23. Lucas Lane.
24. Mullick Street.
25. Mohon Lane.
26. Manohar Das Street.
27. Narmal Lohia Lane.
28. Old China Bazar Street.
29. Pagyapati Lane.
30. Pagyapati Street.
31. Parsee Church Street.
32. Portuguese Church Lane.
33. Radha Bazar Lane.
34. Raja Woodmunt Street.
35. Ramji Das Jotia Lane.
36. Rammoohan Mullick Lane.
37. Rammoohan Mullick Street.
38. Ram Sebak Mullick Lane.
39. Rup Chand Roy Lane.
40. Rup Chand Roy Street.
41. Sambhu Nath Mullick Lane.
42. Suka's Lane.
43. Shroff Lane.
44. Charnock Place.
45. Lal Bazar Street Nos. 1 to 12.

Disobedience of this notice will render the party liable to prosecution.

House-holders are requested to assist the Municipal authorities to carry out this measure.

The section referred to is :

430. (1) The Chairman may, by public notice, direct that all rubbish and offensive matter accumulating in any premises in any street or quarter of Calcutta specified in the notice shall be collected by the occupier of such premises, and deposited in a box or basket, of a kind prescribed by the Chairman, to be provided by such occupier, and kept at or near the entrance to the premises.

(2) The Chairman may cause public dust-bins or other convenient receptacles to be provided at suitable intervals, and in proper and convenient situations, in streets or quarters in respect of which no notice issued under sub-section (1) is for the time being in force.

and may, by public notice, direct that all rubbish and offensive matter accumulating in any premises, the entrance to which is situated within fifty yards of any such receptacle, shall be collected by the occupier of such premises, and deposited in such receptacle.

(3) The Chairman may, by public notice, direct that all rubbish and offensive matter, accumulating in any premises in any street or quarter in respect of which no notice issued under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) is for the time being in force, shall be collected by the occupier of such premises, and deposited in lump in the street on which such premises abut, or in some portion of such premises.

(4) In any notice issued under any of the foregoing sub-sections, the Chairman shall prescribe the hours within which rubbish and offensive matter must be deposited as aforesaid.

(5) In the exercise of his powers under this section, the Chairman shall be subject to the control of the General Committee.

Sub-sections (3) and (4), two out of four, are enforced by this Notice. In the absence of public dust-bins or other convenient receptacles, the occupier of a house is left free to deposit in lump the rubbish and offensive matter in his premises on any part of the public street, lane or bye-lane.

At the interview which Mr. M. C. Mallik accorded to the 'Bande Mataram' representative he said, speaking of the attitude of the British people towards the Indians, as follows :

"Well the majority of people with British instincts sympathetic with the Indian cause. Retired Anglo-Indians, posing as *Subjantas*, injure our interests, as well as those of England by spreading abroad ideas of Imperialism and advocating the introduction of German and Russian methods into the British Empire; thus they wish to degrade England to the level of Germany and Russia. A very small minority of retired Anglo-Indians are liberal minded. But of the people of Britain in general, there is nothing to complain. John Bull at Home is a true Briton and a gentleman, only he knows nothing about India, and has enough trouble of his own not to worry himself with Indian matters and so he leaves it to every part of the Empire to work out its own salvation."

Mr. Mallik's experience is also the experience of other Bengalis who have studied the ways of John Bull at home. But Mr. Mallik's claim to be heard is perhaps greater than theirs. He has mixed in party politics there. He was once at least an Imperialist himself and has found out that the British lion does more work while sleeping than when roused and that his policy is one of non-interference. He hates details. An example of the fact that, even with the best of intentions, some of the retired Anglo-Indians do more harm to India's cause than good has been furnished by Reuter in the following telegram :

"In the Commons to-night (Nov. 29) Mr. O'Donnell asked Mr. Morley whether in view of the approaching Congress at Calcutta discussing the Partition of Bengal, the Viceroy will receive deputations from the nobility, landowners, Indian members of the Bengal Council, the Calcutta Bar, and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in order to discuss grievances connected with the Partition."

Mr. Morley said it was entirely open to the bodies mentioned to take the ordinary course of addressing the Governor-General, lest in the first instance Mr. Morley was afraid that the Viceroy would be unable to receive what would be rather a demonstration than a deputation and serve no purpose. He was perfectly willing to consider any new facts, but both he and the Viceroy were entirely well-informed regarding the argumentative matters suggested in the question."

Mr. Mallik also advocates the organisation of a Defence League. Says he : "The first thing that should be done is to protect our countrymen from the ill-treatment of unmannerly and sometimes brutal foreigners. For this purpose a Defence League should be organised." But let not Mr. Mallik be misunderstood. In fact, if the suggestion of Mr. Mallik is not taken at its real spirit, we are afraid, more mischief will be done than good. It should also be borne in mind that defence does not mean the reparation of wrong born of offence given. It does not mean useless quarrel the sake of a mistaken idea

which will not stand the scrutiny of honest impartial test or for that of mistaken kindness. Defence is the more defensible and dignified when it has given no cause of offence.

THE present Musalman activity has taken the form of a Vigilance Committee in Lower Bengal. It is reported from the Upper or the United Provinces that a Musalman Syndicate has purchased the "Indian Daily Telegraph."

THE Foreign Office has issued the following communication:—

On or about the 7th November a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Afghan-Turkestan. The shock or shocks lasted for about five minutes, and in Haibak and Tashkurgan, it is said, that nearly one-fifth of the houses collapsed. A great many lives are said to have been lost.

Nov. 18. The Standard Oil Directors have issued a circular to stockholders stating that the Company's position is legally and morally unassailable, and they are confident that it will be vindicated in the pending prosecution.

London, Nov. 16. The committees of the American Bankers Association, and the New York Chamber of Commerce have drafted a bill, which will be submitted to Congress next session, providing for the issue of credit bank notes, to meet financial emergencies, and to relieve stringency.

London, Nov. 19. The New York District Attorney Jerome's first report on the Insurance scandals deals with the Mutual Life and declares that there are no State laws under which the officials can be prosecuted criminally.

London, Nov. 23. The "Times" Peking correspondent says that regulations for the abolition of the use of opium has been imperially sanctioned. They prescribe cessation of both consumption and cultivation within a decade, restriction of cultivation by one-tenth annually, compulsory registration of sellers and users, and the amount consumed, users under sixty must decrease consumption ten per cent. annually, none are permitted to begin use or open shops, evaders are liable to punishment and confiscation.

The Waiwupu has been ordered to approach the British and other Ministers with a view to securing the cessation of importation within a decade.

It is believed China will ask India's consent to increase the Chinese import duty.

The "Times" commenting on the above says that China must give clear and convincing proof, that she is not merely pretending to abolish the use of opium in order to increase her revenue at the expense of India. If such practical proof is forthcoming we shall refuse to come to an agreement.

London, Nov. 23. The Secretary Shaw, speaking at Kansas, said that first half of the Twentieth century would witness the greatest commercial conflicts in history. He urged the necessity of Americans developing new markets in South America, South Africa, and the Orient, with American ships.

Mr. Root speaking at St. Louis said a "Congressional Bill has been drafted to establish six subsidised steamship lines to foreign ports.

London, Nov. 22. The Select Committee on the Income Tax have drafted the final report, which provides for a universal declaration of income with differentiation between earned and unearned.

London, Nov. 24. King George of Greece was banquetted at the Quilrinal to-day. King Emmanuel, in toasting the guests said, that the glories of Rome and Greece, from which art, poetry and science had radiated, were still unforgettably, and he hoped in the future their histories would be united. King George replied emphasising the admiration, goodwill and fraternal feelings of the Greek for the Italian people.

The Roumanian, Serbian and Bulgarian representatives, though invited to the banquet, did not attend.

London, Nov. 25. Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at Gloucester, said the amended Education Bill was worthless and unacceptable. The question had arisen whether the people or a clique of dead-heads should govern the country. Lordly meddlers were a menace to freedom.

London, Nov. 26. A Christian Scientist Architect, named Chisholm, has been found not guilty of manslaughter, but guilty of misdemeanour, for failing to summon medical assistance for his son, who died of diphtheria. He has been ordered to come up for judgment if called upon.

London, Nov. 26. A telegram from Berlin says that the "Tagblatt" states that King Haakon has circularised the Powers asking them to guarantee Norway's integrity, and that Russia, France and Germany have already assented.

London, Nov. 25. At the Conference on leprosy at Buenos Ayres experts stated that the disease was obviously increasing in Argentina and rigorous measures must be taken.

London, Nov. 27. The "Times" commenting on the letter of its Cairo correspondent, says that Musrapha Kamel, the well-known Anti-British agitator, is once more in favour at the Palace. Once again he has possession of unlimited cash.

It is suspected in Cairo that a large part of the money required for starting the Anglo-French edition of the bitter Anti-British paper "Lewa" is furnished by the Knedive. Anyhow advanced Nationalists affirm that he is the principal supporter of their programme. It is hard to suppose that he is entirely ignorant of the same.

The "Times" commenting further on the report of money for the "Lewa" having been obtained through the scandalous sale of grades in decorations by the Palace, says: "This cannot be indefinitely tolerated. While British influence prevails in Egypt the fountain of honour must be absolutely above suspicion."

London, Nov. 27. A meeting was held yesterday of sixty Liberal Commoners when the Transvaal Asiatic ordinance was discussed and the hope expressed that the Imperial Government would exercise the same pressure on the Transvaal after responsible Government was granted as it would on a foreign country. The deputation waits on Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to urge the disallowance of the Ordinance.

London, Nov. 27. The French steerable balloon "Patric" has covered 94 kilometres in six and half hours, returning to the starting point.

London, Nov. 27. Ten out of a batch of 24 native prisoners in the Philippines, who had been experimentally inoculated with cholera virus, died. The operators explain that the virus was contaminated with bubonic plague. The Governor-General has exonerated the scientist. The Government will take care of the families of the dead.

London, Nov. 27. The "Daily Mail" publishes on the first of December a weekly penny edition for the blind, printed in Braille characters.

London, Nov. 28. Mass meetings have been held of the National Liberal Federation and Congregational Union. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed and a resolution was passed condemning the action of the Lords over the Education Bill.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman wrote that the Bill was a travesty of its original form. "We can't," he said, "have any tampering with the main principles, and, failing an arrangement which would not prejudice the cause of education, a way must be found to carry out the wishes of the country."

London, Nov. 27. In the Commons Sir Henry Cotton called attention to the participation of Deputy Magistrates at Maddalore and Sirajgunge in demonstrations in favor of the maintenance of Partition.

Mr. Morley: "No doubt the Local Government will take the necessary steps to enforce the rules prohibiting officials from taking sides in any political controversy."

Mr. Wilson asked why India gives up the hill station of Dithala, a good sanatorium for troops.

Mr. Morley said the permanent location at Dithala was never sanctioned, and the withdrawal was in accordance with a statement made in the Lords on 30th March, 1903. Government never desired to interfere in the domestic affairs of the tribes.

Nov. 28. A deputation consisting of Mr. Harold Cox, Sir Charles Schwann, Sir William Brampton Gordon, Mr. Rees, Sir Henry Cotton and Sir J. Brunner, representing the meeting held

yesterday of sixty Liberal members, waited on Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman in reference to the Transvaal Asiatic Ordinance, and urging, anyhow, that the Ordinance should not be sanctioned until self-government is given to the colony. Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman gave a sympathetic hearing and promised to confer with Lord Elgin.

London, Nov. 28. Famine is raging in several of the Volga Provinces, and the distress is terrible.

London, Nov. 28. Reuter at Shanghai wires that the International Committee appeal to Europe and America for relief of the distress in North Kiangsu, where floods have devastated over fifty thousand square miles. Ten million people are on the point of starvation, and many are selling their children and cattle, and the country is lawless.

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

Viceroy's Camp, Bikanir, Nov. 25.

At the conclusion of the banquet the health of the King-Emperor was duly honoured, after which the Maharaja rose and proposed the health of the Viceroy. After warmly welcoming Lord and Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot to Bikanir, His Highness went on to say:—

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen. Need I say what real pleasure it has given me and indeed to all my people that your Excellency has been able to accept my invitation to visit Bikanir this year? The representative of the King-Emperor is the recipient of the warmest welcome from every state he visits and I find it difficult to express my feelings in original words of my own, but I would beg Your Excellencies to believe that our pleasure at the honour you have done us by coming here and the welcome we have accorded you are none the less genuine and sincere. It is a matter of the liveliest satisfaction to me that Her Excellency Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot have also been able to grace the occasion with their presence. All my friends are aware of my great sorrow and the very heavy and irreparable loss which I have recently sustained. It did not come along with unexpected, and it was our united wish that nothing should interfere with Your Excellencies' visit, and if I may be permitted to say so Your Excellencies' coming here is a fresh proof of your sympathy in the days of my grief, a fact which has been a great consolation to me. I must apologise, ladies and gentlemen, for bringing in so much of the personal element, and that too of so sad a nature, and if His Excellency will now allow me I will turn to other things. In my banquet speech when Lord Curzon visited Bikanir, four years ago, I referred at some length to the administration of the State since my being invested with ruling powers. As I have already had the pleasure of submitting a note on the subject to His Excellency I do not propose to go into it here, but would like to express the hope that the record of my eight years' administration of the State which I have endeavoured to set forth in that note, will not be found by Your Excellency to be unsatisfactory. The eight years during which I have been administering my State, I think may be described as the most eventful time of my career. They have been so full of pleasures and sorrows, of doubts and difficulties, of elations and depressions, of the achievement or failure of the ends in view. I think I can also truthfully say that I have throughout worked, not with any self-interest or with any desire of self aggrandisement, but with the solid and sincere aim in view to, firstly, do all I can for bettering the condition of my people and making their lot a happier one; and, secondly, to develop and husband the resources of my State and to provide as efficient an administration as lies in my power. If there have been any selfish motives they have been a not unnatural desire on my part to endeavour to win the love of my people and to leave with divine assistance such a legacy to my son and heir as may enable him when the time comes to steer his course with fewer doubts and difficulties than have in the ordinary course of events fallen to my lot.

In spite of all our efforts, we find ourselves confronted in some directions with difficulties which, on account of the peculiar conditions of the State, I might almost describe as superhuman, and which we in Bikanir are certainly unable to cope with, try all we can. I do not refer here to that part of the State where, owing to heavy desert sand, nothing much can at any time be done, but to a far portion of the country which, fertile in the extreme, is lying waste for want of irrigation, and we are also not getting now what little water we use to in the Mirzawala and Bhadra tahsils from the Sirhind and Western Jumna Canals. The little Ghaggar inunda-

tion canals, from which we had certain expectations when they were made a few years ago, have also sadly disappointed us. The amount of our rainfall, at all times of the scantiest, has in later years been scantier still. Against the large annual average of a little over 11 inches we record only 3.10 inches of rainfall in the year 1905, whilst when the rains completely failed throughout India in 1899, resulting in the appalling famine of that year, our total rainfall reached the gigantic amount of 1 inch 14 cents. In most parts of the State only one crop is sown, the kharif, and that, too, is entirely dependent on this magnanimous rainfall. It also very often happens that while the rains commence auspiciously they fail in August or September. Thus the maturing of the crops becomes a matter of great difficulty and sometimes an impossibility. Only those living in India realise the vital importance of a good rainfall and a sufficient supply of water. If this applies to India generally, how much more vitally, I ask, does it affect us in Bikanir? The trying days preceding and during the rains in Bikanir can never be forgotten by those who have been here at those times, when practically the first thing that every one, from the highest to the lowest does on getting up in the morning is to scan the skies for the welcome sign of even a passing cloud and anxiously looks to the direction of the wind. Generally one's hopes are blasted by a dust haze or a howling dust storm and not the sign of a cloud anywhere. Although our experiences have taught us that it wants more cloud than one no bigger than a man's hand to give us rain in pour, dried-up Bikanir, yet, while in it is even a particle of a cloud, it is conspicuous by its absence when most wanted. Whereas, in November, when it is too early for it to be of any real use and specially when we expect distinguished guests, dark clouds immediately threaten to spoil our famous grouse shoots. Scarcity in this place as I have often said before, is, alas, the rule, and not the exception. In ordinary scarcities the people emigrate to more favoured parts with their families and cattle, and while most of them come back year by year to battle with the same hardships many of them go away to starve, which chiefly accounts for our census figures falling off from 832,000 in 1891, to 584,627 in 1901. Should the conditions be worse and a famine invade us the distress can be better imagined than described. Although the State doggedly combats the pitiless foe, as we did in 1899--1900, we feel that it is fighting against the forces of Nature and that the odds are heavily against us. The people are crippled and their stock is almost impossible to save, in spite of the best endeavour of all concerned. The State is very often plunged in debt and loses both ways, for the revenue falls far short of the demand, while the surpluses, if any, are exhausted in affording necessary relief, thus greatly hampering us in embarking on a programme of constructive works and of discovering and developing the latent possibilities of the State. Then, again, after a few fair years, when the people have almost recovered their position and replenished their stock, and the State has pulled itself together and extricated itself from debt and the prospects are generally brighter all round down comes a bolt from the blue in the shape of another famine, which in one fell stroke undoes the labours of many years and sets at naught all our united efforts and self-denials of the past. While my brother the late Maharaja was more fortunate, there have been very few good years since my accession and the only good one since my accession and the only good one since my coming of age was that following the famine. In the last two years we have been through a most anxious period and have each time been providentially saved at the eleventh hour, and though the powers of endurance of my people are very great I often ask myself how much longer we can go on if things do not improve. The picture which I have sketched here might perhaps appear to be somewhat exaggerated to those not intimately acquainted with the difficulties and hardships we have to encounter in these parts. Nevertheless, it is, I assert, painted in true colours.

But, there is mercifully a silver lining to every cloud and a ray of hope has at last pierced the gloom. There was a time when, during the famine of 1899-1900, an old and valued friend of mine Colonel Dunlop Smith, whom I am delighted to see here this evening (applause), while he was famine commissioner in Rajputana, made informal enquiries as to the possibility of our getting a good canal into Bikanir, and was advised that it was quite impossible. Happily, thanks to the generous and broad-minded policy inaugurated by Lord Curzon, to treat for such purposes every part of India from an imperial point of view without regard to the accident of its lying in British India, or in the territories of our States, the Irrigation Commission was appointed, as an outcome

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of which the Rajputana State received the benefit of the advice of a Consulting Engineer for famine protective and irrigation works in the person of Colonel Sir Swinton Jacob, who is universally known to be an officer of exceptional ability and great experience. In the meanwhile, we on our part were not idle. We got the loan of the services of Mr. Standley, an irrigation officer, from the Government of India, and began to look about for suitable sites for irrigation canals or tanks. The first bund ever constructed in this State was started at Madh in 1904 and followed shortly afterwards by another at Pilap, near Gujner, in the Magra District. But these at best are only comparatively small projects, and are also entirely dependent on the annual rainfall, and ill-fortune has continued to persistently dog our foot steps, for since they have been built very little rain has fallen in those parts. Owing to the formation of the country being unfavourable, it was also found that practically no other bunds could profitably be built. We then turned our attention to a bolder aspect of the question viz., a careful and searching investigation as to the feasibility of bringing a canal from some big river in the Punjab. The levels were found to be favourable and there appeared to be no reason why, with the help and support of the Government of India, we could not get canals into our State. Sir Swinton Jacob, in the course of his tour here, after going into the evidence of the Irrigation Commission, very strongly supported our proposal, with the result that upon our representing the matter to the Government of India we find that we are now within measurable distance of the realisation of our hope. The sympathetic interest displayed by Your Excellency in the welfare of my State encourages me to believe that we may confidently look forward to a continuation of the same imperial policy, and to our eventual salvation from Your Excellency's Government, who have already lent us a helping hand and done so much to bring the scheme to a more definite shape. As the country which will be irrigated under the present project forms only a part of the most fertile portion of the State, we would beg that, so far as possible, Bikanir should also receive the benefit of any future projects that may come up for the consideration of the Government of India.

The phenomenal floods in the Suratgarh nizamat, from the Ghaggar river, due to the abnormal rainfall in the Himalayas this year and the heavy rain in September of the year before, have proved the productive powers of that part of the State, as Your Excellency has seen for yourself round Hanumangarh. The immunity which we would enjoy from famine and the permanent release of my people from their bond of misery, coupled with the fact that a large tract of sandy desert would be converted into a green garden waving with corn and grain, will, I venture to say, in itself be one of the greatest achievements and transformations under the British rule in India; while on the other hand Your Excellency and Lord Curzon will be remembered by the people of Bikanir as their greatest benefactors and may be assured of their everlasting gratitude and affection (applause.)

I regret extremely, ladies and gentlemen, that I should have detained you longer than I intended, and I crave your indulgence. My plea must be that the subject is one of such vital importance to my people and my State that it cannot be overrated. It is verily

a question of life and death to us. It only remains for me now to tender through Your Excellency my duty to His Majesty the King-Emperor. To the unflinching loyalty of His Majesty and my State to His Majesty and the British Throne I need hardly refer here. Our services in the past will I trust obviate the necessity for my giving any further assurance to-day. I and my troops are always at His Majesty's command (applause). I would, with Your Excellency's permission, take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the various officers of the Imperial Service Troops, past and present, and amongst whom I am glad to see Captain Rawlins here to-day—we were comrades-in-arms in the China Campaign—and especially to the Inspector General of the Imperial Service Troops. General Sir Stuart Beaton is an old friend of the Rajputs and I am sorry he was prevented from being present here on this occasion. It is due to their help that my troops have been enabled to take their place side by side with the British army against England foes. I would here also like to acknowledge the loyal co-operation and ungrudging assistance rendered by my principal officers, to whom is due what little success we may have attained in the State administration. I have in this also been greatly encouraged by the appreciative remarks made from time to time, by Your Excellency's Government and that of Lord Curzon, and by the sympathetic and valuable advice which I have received from Your Excellency's Agents in Rajputana; nor must I omit to mention the Political Agents accredited to my State to my old tutor and guardian Mr. Brian Egerton, the trust of friends and the best of men. I never miss an opportunity of expressing my deep obligations, and the satisfaction that was recently expressed here at our well-merited C.I.E., is a proof of the high esteem and popularity in which he is held by every one in Bikanir (applause.)

Last, but not least, we are most grateful to Colonel Robinson our popular Civil Surgeon, for all the improvements he has made in the hospitals and jails and the vaccination and sanitation work which have now been under his charge on and off for the last 10 years.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me the greatest pleasure in asking you to join me in drinking to the health, long life, and every prosperity of Your Excellencies the Viceroy and the Countess of Minto (applause.)

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

The Viceroy replied as follows:

Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen. The cordiality of the words in which His Highness has proposed the toast of my health, the magnificent hospitality with which he has received me, and the hearty welcome he has extended to Lady Minto and my daughters, make it very difficult for me to thank him as I should wish. I have been deeply impressed by the reception Your Highness and your people have offered to me as the representative of the King-Emperor. I can assure Your Highness, too, that it has been a great pleasure to me to be able to visit Bikanir so soon after my arrival in India. For I have heard much of the State of Bikanir and of the able administration of its ruler (applause). Yet, Your Highness, I cannot but feel that our visit to you has followed, I am afraid too quickly, upon a time of deep grief and irreparable bereavement, and I can only ask you to believe in our true sympathy, which I hope we may be permitted to share with your people and your host of friends. I have listened with the deepest interest to all Your Highness has so eloquently told us of your hopes and anxieties for the future welfare of your people. I can well appreciate those anxieties. In every word you have said there has been evidence of your detailed knowledge of the requirements of your State and your earnest desire for the development of its resources, and I cannot but suspect that Your Highness even looks with some pleasure on the difficulties before you, in the firm confidence that you will overcome them. Your Highness will not, I think, find fault with me for saying that you have at any rate one great advantage to your credit—youth—on your side. You have still, I hope, many years before you in which to direct the destinies of Bikanir. You have already seen much of the world. You have served the Empire with distinction in foreign lands; you have visited the centre of that Empire and have earned the personal esteem of its leading men; and yet, whilst recognising what is good in Western ways of thought, you have in no way allowed yourself to become dissociated from the religion, the traditions, and the individuality of your own countrymen (applause). I cannot say how largely it seems to me the future of India depends upon the administration of its ruling chiefs. The rapidity of communication with the Western world is daily increasing Western influences. Some good and some bad are gradually beginning to permeate Eastern life, and the social temptations of the West are becoming more and more within the reach of those who do not wish to resist them. Your Highness, I am very far from saying that at the present day either a ruling chief or any Indian gentleman should deprive himself of the advantages of the broader outlook of a world outside his own. We must move with the times and it is right to put the means modern science has afforded of seeing the world's wonders. But great possessions and great power carry with them great responsibilities from which no ruler

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can long separate himself without jeopardising the welfare of the charge which Providence has committed to his keeping. Your Highness, I have sincerely to thank you for enabling me to see for myself what you are doing for your State. It is pleasant to hear from you of an increased revenue, increased railway mileage, mineral development, the encouragement of industries and far-reaching electrical schemes; to admire the many beautiful buildings your city possesses; to acquaint one self with your system of education and to realise the administrative skill with which you have reorganised the departments of your Government; whilst I need hardly tell you of the pleasure it afforded me to see on parade those magnificent troops of which you are so justly proud, and who have already shared in the hardships and successes of more than one imperial campaign. But, Your Highness, I know full well that behind so much that is encouraging there lurks that awful ghost of possible famine, ever ready to haunt the broad lands over which you rule. If the features of those lands were only a little different, if Nature had only been a little kinder, if water could only run more freely, how full of promise the future would be. And yet, Your Highness, I hope I am justified in believing that the adaptation of those possibilities of irrigation which have already worked such miracles for India will triumph here also in Bikanir, aided by the energy of its ruler and the hardihood of its people.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our host—a host who has shown us princely hospitality and, I think I may say, too, unrivalled sport,—in the earnest hope that he may have many years before him to secure the prosperity and develop the resources of the State over which he rules with such distinguished ability (applause).

—*The Englishman, Nov. 26.*

Sangrur, Nov. 26.

To-day, Monday, the Viceroy and party reached Maler Kotla, at 1 o'clock. They were met at the station by the Regent and Colonel Davies, Commissioner, Jullundur Division, and all the

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IMPRESSIONS OF A WANDERER.

State officials. A Guard-of-Honour was mounted at the station, almost all the men of which wore the medals for Tirah and China, and a salute of 31 guns was fired as the Viceroy got out of his carriage. After inspecting the Guard-of-Honour the Viceroy and party drove to a Camp that had been prepared for them and were then hospitably entertained at luncheon by the Regent. After luncheon a Durbar was held at which the Regent made the following speech:

Your Excellency, ladies, and gentlemen, on behalf of my venerable father, His Highness the Nawab Moham. J. Ibrahim Ali Khan Bahadur, the loyal subjects of this State, and myself, I tender you a most hearty welcome to Maler Kotla. Your Excellency, when I pause here for a moment to reflect how onerous, and responsible, and multifarious are the duties which a Viceroy has to discharge and how many and pressing are the calls from the various quarters of this vast continent on his valuable time, the inclusion of Maler Kotla in the viceregal tour at the commencement of Your Excellency's rule in India fills our hearts with joy, and awakens in us in a most powerful degree sentiments of pride and gratitude for the honour which Your Excellency's visit has conferred on this principality. The event of to-day will be looked upon as marking an epoch in the history of this State, as was the year 1809, when in the reign of Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor, Lord Minto, this State first came under the British suzerainty, and the law of primogeniture was re-established. Our joy is doubly enhanced by the fact that Your Excellency is accompanied by your gracious consort, whose presence, together with her noble family on this occasion has lent it an inexpressible charm and whose very sympathetic and humane efforts in the cause of providing greater medical relief to the helpless members of her sex in this country are already creating in the hearts of the Indian people a place which I can safely say will be second to none of that of her ladyship's illustrious predecessors.

I may be permitted to remark that this is the first occasion on which the representative of our August Sovereign has honoured the State by his visit and as such cannot but be a matter of pride and gratitude for us. Although Maler Kotla is one of the oldest if not the oldest, State in the Punjab, the fact that its Chief, owing to the unsatisfactory state of his health and condition, has not been able for a long time past to give his personal attention to its affairs and which necessitated the entrusting of its administration to the care and control of superintendents has I am inclined to think in some respects been accountable for the deference of this auspicious day in its history. In the end I may be allowed to say that in steadfast devotion and unwavering loyalty to the British Crown Maler Kotla has been second to none among its competers in the past, and I can assure Your Excellency that in time of emergency the British Government can count upon the sword of its ruler in the future.

After the Regent had spoken the Viceroy spoke:

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

Nawabzadah, I beg to thank you for the cordial reception, you have extended to me on behalf of your father and the people of his State, on my first visit to Maler Kotla, and I greatly appreciate the kindly expressions of welcome you have addressed to Lady Minto and my daughters. As you are aware, the time at my disposal is very limited, and I regret that my stay in your State must necessarily be a short one, but it is a great pleasure to me to have even this fleeting opportunity of visiting your people, who, as you remind me, first came under British rule during the administration of my ancestor, Lord Minto. The State of Maler Kotla in days gone by rendered much service to the Crown, whilst in recent years, you have contributed those Imperial Service Troops, who did such excellent work in the Tirah and in China. I congratulate you heartily on their efficiency and on their distinguished services. I sympathize with you in the disadvantages under which Maler Kotla labours owing to the unfortunate circumstances which have separated your chief from the direction of its affairs, but I feel sure that under your able regency no opportunity will be lost in assisting the progress of the State, and I shall look forward to hearing of the development of all those resources in which I know you and your colleagues take so deep an interest.

After the Durbar the Viceroy accompanied by the Regent and Colonel Davies drove round the town, a curious old Eastern walled town with narrow streets.

He then re-entered his special train and proceeded to Sangrur, which he reached at 5-30 p.m.

Here he was met by His Highness the Raja of Jind, Major Dallas, Political Officer and all the State officials. A Guard-of-Honour of the Jind Infantry was mounted at the station, a smarter guard and composed of finer specimen of men is perhaps seldom seen. The Viceroy then entered a magnificent silver carriage, and, accompanied by the Raja of Jind, Major Dallas and one of his personal staff, drove through the town to his Camp.

—*The Englishman, Nov. 27.*

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smiths Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native person as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta: Tucker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindustan Patriot," in its primeval days under Kristodas P. D., enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of his biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and to many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked it public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the late Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that was nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The Pioneer (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

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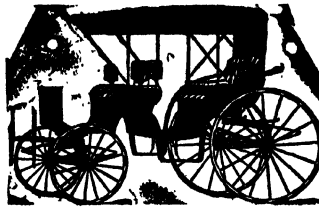
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,248.

SONAR MISTRY

OR

THE FINGER-POST OF THE TIME.

The days of dads and grannies gone,
Like phantasms softly fade the old ;
The changeful world moves up and on,
From steel to brass, from brass to gold.

Old 'huka' seems ruled out of court,
Her place is filled by tea and wine ;
Those that in light and air disport,
Are slow to eat but quick to dine.

The green-clad earth grows greener still,
Millennium is peering nigh,
When rich and poor shall share at will,
The equal dole of earth and sky.

Big wax the small and great ones shrink,
Since both must be of equal size,
And we are well-nigh on the brink
Of being strong alike and wise.

To level up and level down
Are but means to this noble end ;
To equalise the rag and crown,
Kind Nature doth both mend and bend.

Like one adept in lines and laws,
Unequal lines how equals she !
The less to length required she draws,
Or trims the greater, if needs be.

A fact to state, the point to clear,
Cease sceptics vain, cease to deride,
A moment's patience, lend an ear,
Attend, and then for selves decide.

Was sipping Shyam his morning tea,
With cultured taste of rank and birth,
The spoonful flavour seemed to be,
His sole enjoyment on this earth.

In looked Nimchand with thought profound,
The gossip of the village town,
To court the great, his daily round,
Perhaps to chat and gulp cups down,

The greeting short, ' Taslimat ' done,
Both smiled and grinned as matters be,
One drew a chair, the nearest one,
The other hurried with his tea.

' Whom are you going to vote for ? '
Thus asked Nimchand so grave and good ;
' Well, such half measures I abhor,
Our franchise is not what it should.'

' Some one you must support,' quoth he,
' And must to you have come some one ; '
' So whom to please, it puzzles me,
Be sure this time I vote for none.'

' Why waste your vote and burke your right ?
Give it to some deserving one ; '
' A game,' quoth Shyam, ' not worth the fight,
' A bauble sure, if lost or won.'

' Our rulers kind, our rulers just,
' They gave as much, they deemed it fair,
' By deeds deserve the sacred trust,
' Show fitness for a larger share.

' A welcome gift, thank for the boon,
' Long toilsome ages fought and won,
' Naught comes at once, naught comes too soon,
' They fought for it from sire to son.

' All institutions slowly grow,
' And blind is he to social laws,
' Who hopes to find aught ripe below ;
' What struggle costs a noble cause !

' Things rude and crude reward our toil,
' And nothing readymade we win,
' There's time and grade and social soil,
' A slight neglect I hold a sin.'

' Perdition take your boon and all !
' They dun for votes and dun to death !
' What beggars makes of great and small,
' O!t mars my sense and shakes my faith,

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'To please one's self, to please great guns,
'How one wrings out unwilling votes,
'All rush alike the sage and dunce,
'To seize on votes as on bank notes.

'This honour cheap, this empty boast,
'The highest bidder sale I hate,
'And he succeeds who scores the most,
'The high-born folks but rue their fate.'

'And time will mend all such abuse,
'If you but know to choose your man,
'Learn whom to give, whom to refuse :'
*Thus drew Nimchand his simple plan.

'But what about the quest and call,
'Deny this crumb with what a face,
'And how to stand request of all,
'In such a thing, in such a case.'

'You seem so weak, so soft and shy,
'Why stoutly not say aye or nay,
'Give whom you like, the rest deny,
'Bye-shame is doltish I should say.

'Be bold and strong, your right assert,
'Make use of it as best you can,
'Take not what others say at heart,
'Assert yourself and be a man.'

Shyam looked confused, he looked aside,
If to collect his vagrant thought,
He softly said with wounded pride,
'I'll vote for the best of the lot.'

'Have you thumbed Darwin's noble page ?
'No love hath nature for the bear,
'In every clime and every age,
'The fittest oft survive the rest.

'A fig for the high-sounding names !
'For fools they have charms, fools them prize,
'As baubles children, tinsels dames,
'The world for them has grown too wise.

'Wind-bags I shun, who deal in phrase,
'Huge talkers they, the wrangling crew,
'They logic chop, oft questions raise,
'And speak to death, in sooth, they do.

'A book-worm lives but in the past,
'The world he knows not of to-day,
'Now all are wise and scholars vast,
'When schooling's cheap as cheap as they.

'I like a simple, silent man,
'A pert, tart chap his work he knows,
'Who works and works and leads the van,
'And takes the stern world as it goes.

'An honest soul, a man of deed,
'Whom we can trust, in whom confide,
'A man of sterling worth we need,
'One born and bred to work beside.'

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'But where to find a likely man,
'Of wisdom, worth and conscience bright,
'Say what you may, do what you can,
'Of judgment pure, of deeper sight.'

'With anxious care old things forget,
'You want a wit ? there is the don ;
'If work you seek, despair not yet,
'And elsewhere set your eyes upon.'

'Of all those who election stand,
'He is the fittest of the lot,
'Vote or no vote, a worthy hand,
'Our rulers have him titled not ?'

'Confound the great, the titled brood !
'You mean the big Roy Bahadur ;
'Mark him well, is not merit rude ?
'Against him poses our Huzoor.

'High roosted he, and got a name,
'Above all reach, beyond control,
'And love is blind, so too is Fame,
'She puffs up oft an empty squall.

'One's own affair one sees allwhere,
'The plucky, lucky men among,
'To see aright one's own affair,
'Is cultured fruit of ages long.

'And we are children, of non-age,
'Those who teach us this noble art,
'I follow them, and not our sage,
'I follow them with all my heart.

'And right or wrong, come weal or woe,
'His worship is my polar star,
'Were'er he leads, I mutely go,
'And follow him in peace or war.

'Who is unfit, and who is fit,
'The coming man who ought to be ?
'Trust his manoeuvre, trust his wit,
'He knows us better far than we.

'But fools may laugh and knaves deride,
'Our franchise is not tea and toast,
'I care a pin for name and pride,
'It is my country's right and boast.

'To see the roads and drains, no joke,
'To eat one's bread, and eat one's salt,
'And see the Mch't's no bullock yoke
'That is not sound and has but fault.

'All honour has its trust and task,
'Mere forger of phrase would not do,
'None please my fancy those that ask
'For honour, whom no honour's due.

'And he that has a grain of sense,
'Will fly from men in blaze of fame,
'He loves no work, oft vain and dense,
'The idle drone, proud is whose name.

'And who the man that meets your eye,
'To varied stock adds will and skill,
'A man of work and method high,
'That would the place with honour fill ?'

' You know it well, you know it sure,
' I have no vote and of my own,
' I speak from motives good and pure,
' To see no vote away is thrown.

' And simple Sonar is my man,
' Fit is he in more ways than one,
' In honest work he life began,
' In honest work he laurels won.

' A labour prince, an artist rare,
' A self-made man, no talker he,
' No book-worm sure, a worker fair,
' A doer hard, if nothing be.

' I am no child, I am no goose,
' Our pious Bob is good and true,
' Huzoor's man is the man I choose,
' Whom backs Huzoor, you back him too.'

' Bless me, a Jehu did he play !
' Has he the art, has he the knack ?'
' So much the better I should say,
' Fit whip for municipal hack.'

' Has not the gem so blossomed fair,
' And does he ' physic ' not the clock ?'
' Earns honest bread with honest care,
' An artist he, and tends no flock.

' Where fault you find, I talent see,
' For that alone, him should you choose,
' None would find out at ease like he,
' Where clogs the wheel, or screw is loose.

' Our David Hare, and what was he,
' With watches he his life began,
' How many sturdy souls there be,
' A true and honest Englishman.

' He raised the craft and raised his race,
' And worked as king the men among,
' His noble heart and smiling face,
' True faith in God had made him strong.

' On music box et genus hoc,
' A perfect storm you next may raise,
' Let pedants scorn and malice mock,
' Who times a tune deserve all praise.

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' And English is no friend of his,
' How matters he would lay before ?'
' This drawback is his highest bliss,
' His fitness proves still all the more.

' Ne'er ample speeches he would make,
' The sore defect of any man,
' The speeches make for speeches sake,
' Our wordy heroes, when they can.

' They speak to death, work not at all,
' The Lord preserve us from the lot !
' May empires rise and empires fall,
' Our speakers ever flutter not.

' Does he not speak and backwards read,
' The Lingua Franca of the east ?
' By nature he is born to lead,
' His former calling proves at least.

' Is Sonar deaf and dumb, or so ?
' And are his limbs not strong ?' Nim said,
' To raise his hand soon he will know,
' Or hold it up with some one's aid.

' Whole hogger he in all reform,
' Matured what's by official tact,
' He's cool and self-possessed in storm,
' And has a grip of living fact.

' Election churn brings to the fore,
' Unlettered wisdom of the age,
' Time turns anew, what strange is more,
' 'Tis hard to know the fool from sage.

' The leaves and fishes of the State,
' The men from home would ever share.
' The thankless few our big one's fate,
' Now those are knocked like auction ware.

' The tug of war begins with zest,
' Both knights prepare to fight it out,
' A test match 'tis---a surer test,
' With collegemen and men without.

' And blind the rage, heart-burning vain,
' You ring your hands and beat your breast,
' Do what you can, try might and main,
' The gods of battle do the rest.'

' The people rave and in despair,
' Aud mark the din the town about,
' As for myself, I do not care,
' And who is in, and who is out.

' They run about, they beg or buy,
' And this is true, no idle gup,
' They fret and fume, they raise a cry,
' Like thunder, men, in a sea-cup.'

' The hidden gem is brought to light,
' By some propitious power unknown,
' The startled ten ill brook the sight,
' The patient grut was all their own,

' Huzoor's man will victorious be,
' Huzoor's man will the laurel bear,
' With dying colours come off he,
' Olympian gods will take his care,

' The district lord when nods his head,
' All nod their heads as if a spell,
' But when he lifts his hands instead,
' At once all raise their hands as well.

' What living man courts not his smile,
' And dare deny him lowly bow;
' Who does not think it worth his while,
' To please his Worship anyhow ?

' A man to man is known by deed,
' Known inner man to gods alone,
' Poor mortals ! how oft proofs we need,
' The truth inferred is all our own.

' And votes like money held by men,
' They have their worth, they have their use,
' And squanders not one out of ten,
' Like money too they have abuse.

' The rabble votes one may attain,
' The solid votes real merits find,
' It matters not you lose or gain,
' One solid vote beats all its kind.

' One vote wins not but drowns the rest,
' If it comes from Olympian height,
' A charter 'tis, and few are blest
' With such credentials, gods' delight.

' For common man close law we lay,
' But genius spurns all vulgar rules ;
' The praise of one wise man, they say,
' Dwarfs all the praise of all the fools.'

' Be he so fit, be he so wise
' And how would he express his view,'
Shyam interrupted with laughing eyes,
' Don't press me more, he would not do.'

' And hang the fad ! old things forego,
' Give him your vote, and for my sake,
' By instinct would 't a right he know,
' As ducklings to the water take.'

' And what does this election mean ?
' This franchise is a farce at most ;
' Its charms are but from charades lost,
' An empty show—an empty boast.'

' Seek you a sage, seek you a fool,
' Both would alike prove at the end ;
' Both heretofore are of the same school,
' Our money water-like to spend.

' Some sell them cheap, some sell them dear,
' Men have their taste, men have their choice,
' Look whither you please, far and near,
' The stubborn few find scarce a voice.

' This happy hit, this novel plan,
' To find for merit fitting share,
' From working class we seek our man,
' A pious soul is all we care.

' Soon time will come, as come it must,
' When working man would be the rule,
' Will hold the key, will hold the trust,
' And rise supreme the labour school.

' All honour share the upper ten,
' The patent trusts seem all their own,
' From age to age all other men,
' They pine and whine and drudge unknown.

' Our 'versity men are no good,
' Such half-fledged parrots would not do,
' Ambition burns the rankling brood,
' Thus say I and our rulers too.'

Shyam looked bored and heaved a sigh
And stammered soft ' Who found him out ?'
' Kismut that rules the earth and sky,
' And who is who Kismut without.

' Kismut rules all and everywhere,
' The rich and poor, the high and low,
' Kismut is here, Kismut is there,
' Where'er you come, wher'er you go.

' Kismut on bench, Kismut at bar,
' Kismut at counter, Kismut at fair.
' Kismut at peace, Kismut at war,
' It makes of Sonar a Shakespeare.'

' And blest is Sonar, thrice-blest he,
' The district lord befriends him still,
' Like shadow walks the D. S. P.,
' The Dipty Sab has not his will.

' Lo ! the head of the village school,
' Who but boys care his right and might,
' And comes out he to show his rule,
' Beyond his school, in this big fight.

' His be the luck and mine the joy,
' What stubborn valour marks the fight !
' The shop man fights the district boy,
' The man strikes for some good right.'

P. L. N. SAKRAM

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and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their *Vikashya* on the 20th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Mahamatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 8, 1906.

THE HALL LECTURES.

THE Barrows Haskell Lectureship was founded by Caroline E. Haskell, an American lady, through the University of Chicago, at a cost of 20,000 dollars. "These lectures, six or more in number, are to be given in Calcutta (India), and if deemed best, in Bombay, Madras or some other points of the chief cities of Hindustan, where large numbers of educated Hindus are familiar with the English Language. An earnest expression of wish of the late P. C. Majumdar, it would seem, induced Mrs. Haskell to take up this noble work and led her to consider the desirability of establishing in some great collegiate centre, like Calcutta, a course of lectures to be given by leading Christian scholars of Europe, Asia, and America, in which, in a friendly, temperate, conciliatory way, and in the fraternal spirit which pervaded the Parliament of Religions, the great questions of the truths of Christianity, its harmonies with the truths of other religions, its rightful claims, and the best method of setting them forth, should be presented to the scholarly and thoughtful people of India."

It is at the request of Mrs. Haskell that the lectureship bears the name of the Rev. John Henry Barrows, D.D., "who has identified himself with the work of promoting friendly relations between Christian America and the people of India." The chief inspiring force Mrs. Haskell contents herself to be in the background. This annihilation of self is an Indian characteristic, and like an Indian, the lady founder merges all idea of self in the beneficent work she has taken in hand.

Recently a series of such lectures were delivered at the Overtoun Hall, Calcutta, extending over six evenings.

These lectures may be regarded as the return gift of the West to the East. Swami Vivekananda made a stir in the Parliament of Religions, of which the Rev. Mr. Barrows was the president, and since then he carried on his missionary work of preaching Hinduism in America, with what success it is universally known, although the catholicity of the Hindu Religion has not been thoroughly appreciated yet in the West. That probably inspired Dr. Barrows and Mrs. Haskell and the founding of the lectureship was the result. The spirit of conciliatory fraternity on which the founder has laid so much stress, has been more than reciprocated, and the idea that she cherished that these lectures would prove in future years a new golden bond between the East and the West may not be far from realization.

The Hindu faith is an essentially catholic one, and the spirit of toleration which pervades it accounted for the crowded houses night after night, consisting not herely of Hindu school boys but of men distinguished as thinkers. Not that their own religion did not contain higher ethical truths. It was the spirit of toleration that made them lend a willing ear, which the lecturer characterized as inspiring attention and to which the Lord Bishop, the first president of the present series of lectures, bore high testimony.

This lectureship is different from other ordinary lectures of the kind, and is fast growing into an institution, considering the progress it has made within the short period that it has been founded. (1896-97). Since the lectureship, though not secular in subject has been founded through an University, it will not be a bad idea if the Universities here take it up and negotiate with the founding University, with a view to form a Divinity Lectureship by affiliating the Youngmen's Christian College with which the Barrows lecturers seem to be especially connected. The idea need not scare away the Indian Universities, especially the Calcutta University which has the control of such fellowship as the Srigopal Basu Mallik's. It will not only have the desired effect of bringing in closer rational harmony the Eastern and Western thoughts so as to understand the better the drift of mutual religious ideas but will also bring out Indian thinkers who have embraced the religion of the West and induce them to study and speak on the subject with authority such as may be expected from typical oriental minds representing the various schools of Eastern thoughts. Of such persons Mr. Kali Ch. Banerji may be looked upon as one.

This is the second time that the present Barrows Lecturer Dr. Cuthbert Hall has come to Calcutta. He expressed his satisfaction and joy in returning to India as he referred to his former course of Barrows Lectures in the first evening, and hoped that "occidental self consciousness may be analysed by a friendly observer from the East" and further that the "East may not withdraw from her interest in the unseen by reason of Western materialism." Of what the East thinks of the religion of the West, the late Mr. P. C. Mazumdar's Oriental Christ is a fair specimen, and whether Western materialism will do the East the mischief that Dr. Hall is afraid of, is yet too premature to speculate upon. Indian students of religion, said he, are "often repelled from the Christian religion by encountering only the commonplace philosophy of the untutored minds." Yet the feeling is abroad that, in spite of the histrionic art that he brought to bear on his course of lectures, he failed himself to make an impression on his audience from an intellectual point of view. Faith, according to Dr. Hall, is the watchword of the East and the "Eastern mind is sublimely tenacious of its inheritances." To move that faith, he appealed to the sentiment of his audience and not their reasons as did Barrows and Fairbairn before him. He has however the courage of his conviction, and has chalked out his own path in dealing with the subject in his own way. He may be right, or he may be wrong. There may be just as much necessity of appealing to the sentiment as to reason. The Hindu system encourages both, "Jnana Yoga" and the "Bhakti Yoga." Dr. Hall has chosen the latter. In doing so he has had to swerve a bit from the beaten track and to criticize strongly views which do not fit in with his own. This has put out a considerable number of his own faith. It has gone home into the heart of a Christian contemporary who has tried to make out that in spite of Dr. Hall's "Transatlantic eloquence and studies at the Bodleian or his meditations in Chicago the purposes entertained by the generous lady must be pronounced a failure if not something worse judged by the criterion of Dr. Barrows who holds that the religion which the educated Hindu is forming and adopting to-day and is vainly hoping

may prove a substitute for that Christianity whose progress he fears, and some of whose representatives he does not approve, is a composite of Vedic, Vedantic, and Christian ideas and sentiments which he labels Hinduism. The idea of a Hinduised Christianity or of Christianised Hinduism is sickening to this Christian contemporary as being a compromise or a religious amalgam. The idea also of the West learning from the East, as suggested in Dr. Hall's lectures, is revolting, and the ill-concealed angry criticism, after giving a series of names such as Newman, Stanley and others, terminates with the query "Who is there in the East to teach the West and what has he to tell the Christianity of Europe?"

The "Hindoo Patriot" remarks:—"The faith of Christ has been dragged down and debased, and almost hopelessly materialized and the ten commandments are more often violated than obeyed. In the East in particular, the Christian races have, by pursuing a policy of selfish arrogance, impiety and injustice, made it wellnigh impossible for the Orientals to regard Christianity as a religion. Meekness, gentleness, a forgiving spirit and such other qualities which marked the founder of Christianity are more to be met with in the followers of the Eastern religions than in Christians."

Can this be honestly denied? If not, then to this phase at least of the religion of the Prince of Peace the teaching mission of the East may be profitably directed. Besides, there is no gainsaying that the politics of the West and its materialism have absorbed its religion, and to learn how to preserve the sanctity and the integrity of the latter well may the West sit yet at the feet of the East.

The "Empire" reads Dr. Hall's lectures in a spirit quite different from the one referred to above. It says: "Dr. Hall's thesis is briefly that Western Christianity has come to the end of its spiritual resources. It calls as loudly for spiritual enlightenment as the Asiatic races for political freedom. So far as Dr. Hall can see no such enlightenment is likely to come from the civilizations of the West, which are materialistic through and through. But the East is spiritual rather than materialistic, Christianity itself is an Eastern religion. What more feasible than that Christianity, if and when it is re-assimilated by the Eastern consciousness, will return to the West renewed and strengthened tenfold?" "Nothing," it continues, "of course is easier to shoot piper at Dr. Hall as to who is going from India to convert America..... These gibes are as cheap as dirt and they were found to be made by some one although it is a pity they should have been thrown by the 'Statesman' and it concludes by saying "Dr. Hall is in the best sense the man of the hour."

Reciprocity and toleration are two great factors which go to make a great religious preacher; and Dr. Hall possesses them in an eminent degree.

THANESWAR.

A RESIDENT of Thana, near Bombay, was attracted by the similarity of name of Thaneswar, in the Umballa District of the Punjab Province. Was this phonetic attraction or coincidence? Be it whatever it may, Thaneswar is a fact. He writes that the old unused stinking, stagnant tank of this centre of Kurukshetra resembles a similar receptacle in Thana near Bombay and contains extensive nurseries of the lotus plant. The name of Thaneswar,

may be the mark of identification of the Iswar or Siva of sthan, or it may be a corruption of Thaneswar which means the Sar or tank where the Thana or military camp is situated. Beyond dilapidated buildings and ruins in brick bats, this battlefield of the Kauravas and Pandavas does not contain any ancient stone buildings or writings. So many Moslem or Saracenic buildings are in evidence that it seems to have been transformed altogether into a place like Goldsmith's deserted village. A legend is given by the local priests to account for the accidental discovery of this road to Heaven. It is said that once upon a time Raja Kuru went out for shikar in this locality, aimed an arrow at an antelope, but missed the nimble target. His arrow was found imbedded in mud. He pulled it out, wiped off the mud with the index finger of his right hand and replaced it. He, it must be remembered, used to die every night and his royal spouse used to sit watching anxiously all that time. On this night she was astonished to see the same index figure in motion or in spasms. On her lord coming to life in the morning, she brought this fact to His Majesty's notice, who could only account for the phenomenon by assuming that the mud of the particular spot (Sanskrit *Sthan*) possessed such property. If the touch of the mud of a place was so efficacious, what would be the result of a bath in the water of the tank—was his next thought, and it worked upon his mind so as to result in a resolution to take immediate action. He did bathe. Oh joy! That night His Majesty did not die as usual! That fact became widely known and the reputation of the *sthan* (place) was established as a great sacred resort for baths. However, the descendants of Kuru, the Kauravas turned the place into a battle field in fighting the Pandavas, their cousins. A place was shown as the spot where the contending armies rested for the night and lived as good cousins that they were, until the next morn. A pathetic description was given of the unity of hearts of cognates and agnates even when they were enlisted in armies opposing each other, but the pathos was lost as soon as the visitor mentioned the treacherous behaviour of the Brahman *guru* Drona's son Aswathama, who in defiance of the laws of the land murdered the minor sons of the Pandavas at the dead of night. All the ruins are of bricks, there is no stone building, therefore it is difficult to divine what the appearance of the place was like in good old days of the great Pandavas. Situated on the banks of the Saraswati and very near its disappearance in the arid plains, the tank is but a blind pouch of the struggling stream, trying to keep its head up in spite of its approaching fate. Hiuen Tsiang, the Chinese pilgrim of the 7th century A. D., mentions Thaneswar as the capital of a separate Kingdom, 1,167 miles in circuit. It was sacked by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1011. On the rise of the Sikh Power, Thaneswar fell into the hands of Mith Sing, who left his territory to his nephews. In 1850 the town lapsed to the British Government, but there is nothing to show its ancient identity with the rendezvous of the Pandavas, nor is there anything to show that it ever contained any substantial buildings. The gatherings of pilgrims are due to the story that during a lunar eclipse the waters of all other tanks visit this tank; so that he who then bathes in the assembled waters obtains the concentrated merit of all possible ablutions. The tank is now much silted up. The similar tank of Thana in the Bombay Presidency was excavated and a large number of archaeological remains rescued from an undeserved burial. Similar steps at Thaneswar in the Umballa District may produce similar results and reveal quite a treasure-trove. The country for many miles around is holy ground and historical battlefield for ages. It is therefore possible that after the several traditional, *Puranic* and historical battles, it has been ransacked by emigrants from the North-west. It may therefore be suggested that an attempt be made by the Archaeological Department to excavate at least a portion of this time honoured tank to see what important links can be ascertained to establish its claims to antiquity. The oldest Maratha document in the cursive or *modi* script found at Thaneswar is an interesting relic of King Shahu, the grandson of Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire, who passed his minority in the harem of Aurangzeb. It runs thus:—
"After compliments, Shahu Chhatrapati of Satara here

orders that Gauda Brahman Ram Lal who has a large family to support and who begged for help has hereby been enlisted as one to draw Rs. 7-8 a month for food during the four sacred months. With this document he should go to Gwalior, where he will be paid at the present rate and will be granted another *sansad* for an allowance running all the year round. If the Sarkar's wishes be fulfilled as contemplated a further provision shall be made. Dated Vaisakh 7th of the second half of Shaka 1745. In the handwriting of Balwantrao Vinyak Vaidya. Duly sealed and registered. P. S. I Balwantrav Vaidyam at the sacred place with the Sarkar. You are my priest too. Therefore I hereby promise to give you a cow. Dated as above under my own hand."

One Amolakram Kriparam Tirvari, of Joshi Moholla, is the fortunate possessor of this historical document at Thanewar, written under the orders of the Raja of Satara by a secretary of the Prabhu caste of which the "Pioneer" recently made mention as the worthy and deserving Prabhu caste, whose learning and attainments have always procured them the hatred of certain inveterate monopolists. Will any Maratha magazine reproduce a facsimile of this important document? Perhaps the Government epigraphist will.

THE Viceroy on his journey down to Calcutta, opened, on Thursday, December 6, the new Chord Line of the East Indian Railway from Gya to Sitarampur. Lord Minto arrived at Calcutta, yesterday. He will hold the two Levees, on Monday, the 17th and Thursday, the 20th December.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY is a festival of the Christian Church, celebrated in honour of the Apostle St. Andrew. The day so kept is the 30th of November. In Goethe's "Faust," however, occurred the following lines:

"Citizen's Daughter.
Come Agatha! I shun the witch's sight
Before folks, lest there be misgiving:
'Tis true, she showed me, on Saint Andrew's Night,
My future sweetheart, just as he were living.
The Other (Old Woman).
She showed me mine, in crystal clear,
With several wild young blades, a soldier-lover:
I seek him everywhere, I pry and peer,
And yet, somehow, his face I can't discover."

A commentator notes:

"St. Andrew's Night is the 29th of November. It is celebrated, in some parts of Germany, by forms of divination very similar to those which are practised in Scotland on Hallow E'en (October 31st). The maidens, as in Keats's *Eve of St. Agnes*, believe that by calling upon St. Andrew, naked, before getting into bed, the future sweetheart will appear to them in a dream. Another plan is, to pour melted lead through the wards of a key wherein there is the form of a cross, into a basin of water fetched between eleven o'clock and midnight: the cooling lead will then take the form of tools which indicate the trade of the destined lover."

Further on,

"A magic crystal, sometimes in the form of a sphere but frequently, no doubt, as a lens, was employed for the purpose of divination. The methods, in fact, were varied to suit the superstition which employed them. In Pictor's 'Varieties of Ceremonial Magic' (given in Scheible's 'Kloster,') twenty-seven forms of divination are described at length, but Crystillomancy is not among them. The ancients employed between forty and fifty different methods."

In India, St. Andrew's Day is a Night of Dinner on the last day of November, the Day following the Night. The day or rather the night is a feast of merriment and oratory and flow of wine, which last, at the last Dinner, drove a Khansaman insensible into the Curzon Gardens to be removed by the Police.

His feeling, while serving the Dinner, might have been:
Here high and low contented see!
Was there any one exclaiming?

To follow you, Sir Andrew, flatters;
'Tis honour, profit, unto me.
But I, alone, would shun these shallow matters,
Since all that's coarse provokes my enmity.
This fiddling, shouting, ten-pin rolling
I hate,—these noises of the throng:
They rave, as * * were their sports controlling
And call it mirth, and call it song!

IN matters educational of his province, Sir Andrew Fraser will not let the grass grow under his feet. It is said that he is submitting a remodelled Ranchi College scheme to the Government of India. He is, it seems, not the man to do things by halves. Of all his schemes that affect the future generation of Bengal, nothing is of greater importance than female education. Whatever may be the educational status of the Bengali boys, the education of the girls is still much neglected. The quality of education given to the small percentage of our girls is anything but encouraging. Even the children of mothers who have had decent education do not seem to be much better than the children who do not claim educated mothers. The present system badly needs over-hauling. Mr. Justice Sarodacharan Mitra voiced the educated opinion of the Hindus of Bengal when he advocated Hindu lady teachers for Hindu zenana girls. We think sufficient allowance should be made in the direction in the interest of both Hindu and Musalman girls. Mrs. P. K. Roy has very much interested herself in the education of her sisters. In these days of easy transport of thoughts and ideas the women suffragists in England may extend their influence to India. What we fear most is the advent of New women among our non-literate women. A handful of lady graduates in Bengal has not yet much stimulated our society to real female education. The coming conference of Indian women, it is hoped, will be of great help to the sterner sex who are now really anxious to see our girls properly educated, by indicating the line along which the improved scheme may be made to run. The Government of Sir Andrew Fraser will have enough suggestions from the social conference of Indian ladies; only they will be ready to profit by it. Women are generally more religious and orthodox than men. And it will be interesting to note with what spirit of sympathy the conference of the more advanced women is regarded by their less favoured sisters. We doubt very much whether at the meetings held at Belvedere the representatives of different communities gave the opinions of their wives, sisters, and daughters as to the best mode of education to be provided for them. In the absence of any such opinion, it is to be feared that the contemplated change will not count for much with the party whose interest it will seek. In fact it would be waste of time, thought and energy.

THE term of the Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Chaudhury in the Bengal Legislative Council as the representative of the Municipalities in the Rajshahi Division, closes on the 18th January 1907.

"As during the ensuing or following sessions important legislation affecting the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions is likely to be introduced, namely, Bills to amend the Chota Nagpur Landlord and Tenant Procedure Act, the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, and the Chota Nagpur Rurvaol Police Act and a Bill to regulate the maintenance of Land Records in Orissa, and another to amend the Puri Lodging House Act, the Lieutenant-Governor has decided that the recommendation on the present occasion should be made by the Municipalities of the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions."

Six municipalities in Orissa and seven in Chota Nagpur will be invited to send delegates to vote for the new member. They are:

| Orissa. | |
|--------------------|---|
| Cuttack with votes | 3 |
| Jajpur | 1 |
| Kendrapara | 1 |
| Balasore | 2 |
| Puri | 3 |
| Sambalpur | 4 |

Chota Nagpur.

| | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Hazaribagh | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Chatra | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Giridih | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Ranchi | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Daltonganj | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Purulia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Chaibassa | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Orissa has 14 votes against 12 of Chota Nagpur. An Orissian has thus a chance against a Chota Nagpuri. The three largest municipalities in Puri and the two largest in Chota Nagpur, can also decide the election, by 16 votes.

THE following anecdote of Lord Curzon is related by the *Citizen* of Allahabad :

"In Lord Curzon's regime a memorial, said to have been composed by an eight year-old Bengali lad whose father had been unjustly dismissed after twenty years' Government service and had failed, after repeated attempts, to make himself heard in the proper quarters, was addressed to the Governor-General. Being without resources for over a year, the poor fellow, with a large family, was in the last stage of destitution. The memorial was a brief one and written with a pencil. It ran thus:—'Father no service. We hungry. Mother naked.' Lord Curzon at once sent five hundred rupees to the poor family, and the boy's father got back his appointment."

There are statesmen who would strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. What Lord Curzon would do for an individual he would not for the race. Master of details, he failed to deal with a great matter as a whole. His clairvoyance failed to see that his partition scheme would bring many cases of the kind into existence when he would not be here to remedy them.

THE race for the Inspector-Generalship of Registration, Bengal, has closed. The prize has gone to Khan Bahadur Syed Mahomed, of the Provincial Executive Service, now a stipendiary Presidency Magistrate. His service began in the Registration Department and will end there. A hard and conscientious worker, the Khan Bahadur has left a mark wherever he has been. Commencing as a special Sub-Registrar, he returned to the Department as an Inspector. His inspection was thorough and his reports complete. In fact, he found work for the head of the Department, where he goes back again as its head.

The *Englishman* (Dec. 5) announces the appointment thus :

"We learn that Sir Andrew Fraser has selected Moulvi Syed Mahomed, Khan Bahadur, for the appointment of Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal. The appointment is the highest open to the members of the executive service. The Moulvi was twice nominated to the Bengal Legislative Council and was made a 'Khan Bahadur,' which distinctions have not been conferred on any other member of the Service still on the active list. He comes of a well-known and distinguished family. The appointment is both a well-deserved reward for eminent services, and a compliment to the Mahomedan community of which the Syed is a noted member."

Since the appointment has been opened to the Provincial Civil Service, it has been held by both Musalmans and Hindus. It is, we believe, now the turn of the Musalmans, and perhaps the best Musalman has been selected. He is sure to give every satisfaction, and, if possible, to improve the Department by strict and constant intelligent watch.

THE *Empire*, (Monday, Dec. 3) has :

"Rapid Journalism.—Who says journalism is not moving with the times in the East? On Saturday the 'Empire' 4-20 edition contained the results and particulars of the races up to 4-10 when the 3rd race was run, and the paper was on sale at the race course before 5 p.m. The 5-20 edition contained the complete day's racing."

Will the Mission Row Rapids quicken the pace of the slow East?

The *Evening Empire* says to its morning Contemporaries—

Row, brothers, row, the stream runs fast,
Reminding them
Its rapids are near, and the daylight's past.

THE *Englishman* completes what the *American* begins. Says the *Indian Planter's Gazette* (Dec. 1) regarding boot and shoe-making by machinery :

"But singularly enough, what looks like a very simple operation to non-technical persons, that of cutting out the uppers by machinery has been the last to be solved by the invention of a new clicking or upper-cutting press. It is of British origin, whereas almost every other machine in this complicated industry originated in America. The machine, the makers of which are the Standard Engineering Company at Leicester, will tend greatly towards the standardisation of the styles of goods produced by different firms, and will greatly facilitate the power of production."

It is British statesmanship and luck to enjoy the profits of others' labour.

It is the era of machinery.

"The milking machine that is proving so serviceable in the North is the improved Laurence-Kennedy apparatus, and in several large herds in the neighbourhood of Glasgow it has been in use for varying periods up to two years, and in every single instance it seems to have amply justified its introduction."

THE same Gazette writes :

"The Universal Deodorizer is a permanent disinfectant, a preventive against malaria—an enemy of mosquitoes and germs, an atmosphere purifier."

No more, then, of malaria and plague.

AT a conference of medical men in London, Sir Dyce Duckworth, M.D., said no language could exaggerate the nuisance caused by motor-cars. Dr. Hyslop's opinion was that motor-omnibuses ought to run underground in drains like other nuisances. Sir Theodore Martin thought these nuisances were torturing Londoners to death. The first motor-omnibus is ready for Howrah and Calcutta. Will it run overhead—over the heads of cattle and men? The speed is the thing, whatever the nuisance or torture.

AT the sale of Mr. Toole's relics at Sotheby's, Grimaldi's snuff-box fetched £10-10s. and Dickens's wine-coolers £9-10s. So far as the result of the sale shows, the clown of the pantomime is better remembered than the litterateur. It is progress, indeed, if snuff is preferred to wine.

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

AT JHIND.

Nov. 27.

Your Highness,—I am very glad to be present here to-day and to open the new lines which your Highness has built for your Imperial Service Infantry—a striking testimony to your loyal determination to support the military power of the Empire. I am well acquainted with the military history of your State and of your people. The two guns at the entrance to these lines bear witness to the gallant deeds of the soldiers of Jhind, whose descendants have

A REVIVAL.

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UMESH CH. BASU.

Sub-Editor and Manager,

Randabkuri, Dacca.

in later years shared with British troops in the honours of more than one campaign, in one of which—the Afghan war of '78 and '79—I can claim to have been their comrade-in-arms, and though, Your Highness, for the last ten years they have not had the good fortune of being on service—a good fortune for which every soldier longs,—yet I hope that you will tell your officers and men from me that I cannot, indeed, share in their anxiety as to their warlike opportunities for the future, for after seeing for myself the efficiency of your Highness' troops and the magnificent physique of the men who compose them, I cannot but feel how welcome any offer your Highness might make of their services would be to any General about to take the field. I am very sorry that General Sir Stuart Beaton has been unavoidably prevented from being present, and seeing the fine troops whose welfare and efficiency he has so much at heart I have very great pleasure in opening the new lines of your Highness' Imperial Service Infantry, and I am glad to hear that your Highness proposes to celebrate the anniversary of to-day's ceremony by an annual holiday.

The Viceroy then moving to the guard room pulled a string and a flag instantaneously fell away displaying an inscription stating that the lines were opened by His Excellency. The Guard of Honour presented arms, and the remainder of the regiment with one shout yelled that thrilling Sikh war cry the "Futteh."

The Viceroy then went round the barracks after which he returned to his camp.

At 8.15 the State banquet took place, at which the Viceroy spoke as follows:—"Your Highness, I cannot sufficiently thank Your Highness for the magnificent welcome extended to me on my first visit as Viceroy to your State or for the kind terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself. As Your Highness has pointed out, my visit to Jhind is not without some mutual interest to your people and to myself, in that it would seem to renew the connection between the house of Jhind and my family which commenced in the administration of my ancestor, Lord Minto, nearly 100 years ago, when he strove so earnestly to preserve the independence of the Phulkian States. Ever since the early days of the last century, when British power was sorely pressed throughout the world, and when in India Lord Lake was struggling hard to maintain the supremacy of British arms, the State of Jhind showed itself a true friend; and in the late campaigns in the terrible struggle of 1857, in the Afghan war of 1878 and 1879, and in the Tirah Campaign in 1897, the soldiers of Your Highness's State have stood shoulder to shoulder with British troops. I have already told Your Highness to day how deeply impressed I am with the splendid soldierly bearing of the force you have so patriotically dedicated to the service of the Empire. I hope that the new lines which I have had the great pleasure of opening will contribute largely to its comfort and happiness. The lines have been planned with every care and forethought and I congratulate Your Highness on having provided accommodation which it would be hard to rival throughout India.

Lady Minto and I will always remember the magnificence of our reception by Your Highness; the wonderful camp, a perfect fairy scene, which you have arranged for us, the brilliant illuminations of your city, and the hearty welcome of your people. We wish that our stay amongst them could have been longer. And now, ladies and gentlemen, I will ask you to drink to the health of our distinguished and courteous host, with every good wish for his happiness and the future prosperity of his State. I give you the health of His Highness the Rajah of Jhind.

After the banquet the whole party drove out of the camp to see the fireworks which were magnificently beautiful.

NABHA.

Nov. 29.

The following was the Viceroy's speech at the State banquet last night:—

Your Highness,—I deeply appreciate the kind terms in which the Tikka Sahib, speaking on your Highness' behalf, has proposed the toast of my health and that of Lady Minto and my family. It is a peculiar gratification to me to come to Nabha and to the other Phulkian States with which I am proud to be connected by ties of heredity, and here I may be permitted to express the pleasure with which I have received the Tikka Sahib's recent acceptance of a seat in my Legislative Council. The presence of a representative of one of the ancient aristocratic Sikh families in the Council with, I am persuaded, be a source of strength to us (applause). Your Highness, the happiness with which I am filled to-night at being a guest in Your Highness' State is enhanced by the knowledge that here in Nabha I am surrounded by a nation of warriors whose loyal service to the British Crown forms one of the many bright pages in British Indian history (applause). It is well known that your Highness is profoundly inspired by the traditional instincts of the martial Sikh race, and it is due to your Highness' keen military spirit and to the force of your personal example that the Imperial Service Troops of Nabha are the fine force we know them to be (applause). But this after all is only

what we should all be led to expect from Raja Sir Hira Singh, who organised the famous historical demonstration of the 6th January, 1903, during the Delhi Durbar, when, on the anniversary of the birthday of the tenth Guru Govind Singh, all the Sikhs, both military and civil, in Delhi at the time marched in solemn procession down the main street of the city to commemorate the martyrdom of the ninth Guru Tegh Bahadur, who had prophesied the advent of British power. In this connection I cannot do better than to read to you a short description from a book which by a happy coincidence has fallen into my hands only to-day, written by my friend General Sir John Gordon, with whom I served in the Afghan campaign of 1878-79 in the Kurram Valley.

The Viceroy then read the following extract:—

"There was a remarkable demonstration of this sentiment at the great Durbar assemblage at Delhi in January, 1903, when representatives of all races and castes were gathered together to hear King Edward the Seventh proclaimed Emperor of India. At the suggestion of the venerable Raja of Nabha, a devout of devoted adherent of the Khalsa, the Sikhs decided to hold a memorial service to mark their peculiar sense of the deep significance of the Durbar by a solemn act of worship at the shrine of the martyr Guru Tegh Bahadur, who, they said, 208 years before foretold in the hour of his death the coming of the British Empire, under which they enjoy religious freedom and personal prosperous liberty. It was a spontaneous act of loyalty managed all among themselves. As the birthday of Guru Govind Singh, the son of the martyr, occurred on the 6th January, it was decided to mark the day signally. The story of the martyr's death and prophecy was retold, and now this was the time and place to repledge their loyalty to the British who, under the guidance of God, fulfilled the prophecy. A small temple in the chief street of Delhi marks the site of Tegh Bahadur's execution in 1675. A procession in all the panoply and pageantry of feudal Sikh days proceeded to this spot. It was formed of horsemen, banner bearers, and the Sikh levies accompanying their chiefs, being followed by a carriage in which under a covering of gold was the sacred Granth, the holy book. This was reverently lifted out and conveyed into the shrine, whilst, to mark the special importance of the occasion the English national anthem, 'God save the King,' was played by the musicians. All the Sikh chiefs, sardars, and church dignitaries were there. It was a gathering of the nation, called together by their own leaders and all knew what they were there for. Standing by the holy book they, on behalf of all the Sikhs with their marvellous Gur present in spirit (they all believed that), renewed in each other's presence their vows of fealty to the King-Emperor. A sacred chant was then sung in which all joined, closing with their invocation to the Supreme Being which was responded to by the loud shouts of the crowd. On the sacred Granth being replaced in the carriage, 'God save the King' was again played to emphasise the meaning of the ceremony which typified their loyal and sacred bond to British rule and the compelling force of the union which, according to their ideas, had been miraculously brought about" (loud applause).

In conclusion the Viceroy said; Gentlemen, it only remains for me to propose to you, which I do with very sincere pleasure, the health of our warm hearted host, His Highness the Raja of Nabha.

THE NEW CHORD LINE

OPENED BY THE VICEROY

Viceroy's Camp, Gomoh, Dec.

Mr. Douglas, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the first place I must thank you Mr. Douglas for the kind words you have addressed to Lady Minto and myself in proposing the toast of our health. It has been a great pleasure to both of us to be here to-day, and I feel myself particularly fortunate in having had the opportunity of clinching the last bolt in the grand chord railway.

Mr. Douglas has told us this evening, how the line has been constructed in separate sections, each of them calling for the exercise of the highest Engineering skill. The Sone Bridge, between Moghal Serai and Gya, built by my friend, Mr. Palmer, is one of the great bridges of the world, whilst the distinguished abilities of Mr. Hight and the careful construction of Mr. Cokshott have triumphed over the difficulties of the Vindhya Range, and have completed the beautiful hill section over which we passed this afternoon. To-day's ceremony marks the forging of another great link in the East Indian Railway system. It is very interesting to note how the necessity for that link has made itself more evident in each succeeding year; how the loop line in the first place carried prosperity to the populations on the banks of the Ganges, and how still more extensive railway connection with Delhi and the north brought increased traffic to be met by the building of the smaller chord line, to be followed by still greater demands for railway development to which the opening of the Grand Chord Railway is to-day's reply.

It is even still more interesting to look back on the early days of the East Indian Railway Company. I believe we owe the intro-

duction to India of railways (and telegraphs too) largely to the foresight of Lord Dalhousie, though John Co. was not at all inclined to support him. The Directors told him his proposals were merely wasteful extravagance. At the same, he beat them, and turned the first sod of the East Indian Railway in 1851. The Company itself had been organised in 1845 by Mr. Stephenson, afterwards Sir MacDonald Stephenson, who was really the pioneer of Indian Railways. But much time was spent, I may, perhaps, in these days say without disrespect, that much time was wasted in negotiations with the East Indian Company. The contract was not signed till 1849, and the first section of the link to Hughli was not opened till 1854. Many of us must often have thought what that delay meant, for what terrible things it may afterwards have been answerable, what lives might a few hundred miles of railway have saved, for the East Indian Railway has no ordinary history, its early days are tinged with the terrible romance of the Mutiny, if the Railway Company had only been a little older what might it not have done in its infancy! As it was the stress of war could only delay its growth but we will, none of us, ever forget the devotion and the heroic defence of the small house at Arrah by Vickers Boyle. Now I trust this great railway is destined to flourish through long years of peace to play its part in the development of the trade of India, and the furtherance of the happiness of its people, Mr. Douglas has told us that it is the policy of the East Indian Railway administration to give the fullest possible advantage affordable by the Railway as a great transporting agency to both the country and its commerce. This is a noble and patriotic ambition for which India owes her thanks.

Ladies and gentlemen, now that Lady Minto and I have arrived very nearly at the end of our tour, and as I see so many railway friends gathered around me, I really cannot say good-night, without thanking them for the innumerable courtesies we have received from them throughout the many hundred miles of our journey. Mr. Douglas and Mr. Ding, and very many others whom it would only be invidious to mention, have done much for the comfort of our tour, which I can assure them we shall not forget, and now, ladies and gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in a toast, which I am sure will be drunk with enthusiasm, the health of Mr. Douglas, and I venture to couple with it the health of the able and energetic staff of all ranks who have served with him, and success to the Grand Chord Railway.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER. THE PIOUS MEMORY

His Honour Sir Andrew Fraser, in proposing the toast to the memory of St. Andrew, said :—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I rise to ask you to drink to the "Pious Memory" of St. Andrew. I understand that to some apparently reasonable minds it seems strange, that a large company of hard-headed Scotsmen should meet together once a year to manifest their regard for one who is to them only a "Pious Memory," and about whom the rest of the world knows very little. I believed, that it is even said and sometimes by Scotsmen themselves, that we also do not know very much about our Patron Saint.

The character of St. Andrew seems to have been a somewhat modest and unobtrusive one. In this respect it seems to have resembled the Scotch character as we see it manifested except, perhaps on the 30th of November. There is but little record of the Saint in the Holy Scriptures. He seems to have been a quiet, simple, helpful man, but not very prominent among his colleagues. The history of his later life and work in Scythia, Thrace and Greece is fuller; but the scene of it was far away from Scotland and the history has been pronounced by competent authority to be apocryphal. It cannot then be to this alone that St. Andrew owes his hold over the hearts of Scotsmen. Nor, perhaps is our reverence for him even due to the fact that some of his sacred relics were brought, as tradition tells us and deposited in what is now known as the town of St. Andrew's, by the holy St. Regulus.

I have no doubt, however, that all Scotsmen here will know the story of the vision of St. Andrew's Cross in the heavens over the field where one of the critical battles of our very ancient Scottish history was to be fought the following day. The Picts and the Scots had often fought against each other; but they were now drawn together by a common danger. Athelstane of England was marching against them to wrest from them the land they loved. They made common cause against the invader. On the night before the battle, the Cross of St. Andrew was seen by the Scots King in the heavens. He related the story of the vision to his ally; and it was accepted by the two Kings and their followers as an omen of victory. Next day their armies drove the invader back; and they determined that the white Cross of St. Andrew, as it had appeared in the sky on that dark and anxious night, should be borne on their ensigns and banners. From that time forward the St. Andrew's Cross has floated over Scotsmen; and, as the Poet says the metonymy is ever fresh—

"Of Wallace's wight,

And Bruce well skilled to lead the fight,

And cry "St. Andrew and our right!"

The rights and liberties and patriotism of Scotland have ever since been associated with St. Andrew.

We all know too how, when centuries later, a Scotch King crossed the border to effect a larger union, not at the head of a victorious army, but as the welcome heir of the English Crown, he carried with him the old Scotch banner. He added to it the Cross of St. George, and decreed that all ships "of this Isle and the Kingdom of Great Britain should bear in the maintop the red Cross commonly called St. George's Cross and the white Cross commonly called Andrew's joined together according to the form made by our own heralds." The St. Andrew's Cross was below, as it was the original emblem; and the St. George's Cross was added above, no doubt as the sign of the "predominant partner." This flag, in compliment to James VI. of Scotland and James I. of England, whom our French allies had taught us to call by the name "Jacques," has been known as the "Union Jack" ever since. In 1801 the Cross of St. Patrick was added to the Union Jack, taking its place between the Cross of St. Andrew and the Cross of St. George. Thus this old emblem of our national independence and patriotism is now associated with the emblems of England and Ireland; and these three joined in one flag, demand throughout the whole year the love and reverence of all loyal subjects of the gracious Sovereign of the United Kingdom, though we are permitted on one day of the year, each on our own Saint's day, to remember specially our own Cross and emblem.

To us to-day St. Andrew and the St. Andrew's Cross speak of a land of whose history we are proud, the land of our origin, the land of our training, the land of our friends, the land whose very dust, is dear to us in Scotland itself and dearer to us beyond the seas. I ask you to drink to the "Pious Memory" of St. Andrew.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. B. Bingham Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Cork, K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions, B. G. 20th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties in English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to give so graceful tribute to the memory of a brave personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of Dr. Sambhu Chandra Mookerjee, the well-known Bengali journalist (Cuttack, Prudhoe Spink and Co.), nor are there many who are more worthy of using this honour than the late Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*.

We may at any rate candidly agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its joys and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindu Patriot" in its pamper days under Kinston's Pen, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by *Reis and Rayyet*.

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India" (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press in apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of *Reis and Rayyet* appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual exponent of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. If Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism; it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his arduous

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and reading.—The *Pioneer* (Allahabad) Oct. 5, 1895.

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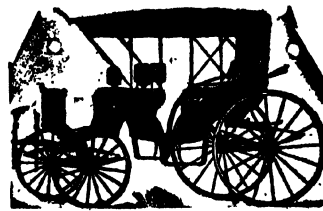
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VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,249.

INDIAN AFFAIRS IN THE "TIMES."

RANJITSINHJI'S CLAIM TO A STATE.

A disputed succession to an Indian feudatory chiefship is not often a subject of much interest to the general public in England; for, as a rule, nothing is known to them regarding the State in dispute, the candidates personally, or the merits of their claims. The case of the Nawanagar, or Jamnagar, succession is a notable exception, seeing that one of the claimants, Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji, is probably known, by reputation at least, to every adult Anglo-Saxon in the world who has ever heard of the game of cricket. No Indian Prince has hitherto distinguished himself highly in this peculiarly English sport, though many of them have shone as polo players, hunters of game, great and small, and tennis players. Nor has any of them enjoyed the unique popularity which has resulted in the bestowal on Ranjitsinhji, by the cricket-loving crowd, of a nickname which, if vulgar, is at least a mark of affectionate interest. One consequence of Ranjitsinhji's cricket playing has also been to throw him amongst Englishmen of all classes, from the aristocracy to the professional cricketer, and to afford him an insight into our character, our social customs, and our institutions which is probably not possessed by any other Indian aristocrat. It will be a curious turn of the wheel of fortune should he find himself presently changing the rapturous plaudits of the crowd at Lord's or the Oval for the more sedate and formal greetings of his Indian subjects. It will, too, be instructive to observe how far he may find English institutions and methods suitable, or adaptable, to the country of his birth.

Nawanagar, the chiefship of which he is now claiming, is a State lying on the southern shore of the Gulf of Cutch, about half-way, in a direct line, between Bombay and Karachi. On the map it looks small, but, in reality, its area is not far short of Norfolk and Suffolk combined, with a population rather less than half as numerous as that of those two counties. Its gross annual revenue is estimated at some £150,000, it owns a short length of railway to the capital, and has several small seaports.

The State was founded, in 1540, by an offshoot of the Jareja Rajput family of Cutch, under the leadership of Jam Rawal, and ever since the title of Jam has been that of its rulers. Of its history during three centuries after foundation, nothing need be said, but that it has been the same in its vicissitudes as that of hundreds of other similar Indian States. In the middle of the nineteenth century the Jam was Shri Vibaji, a Nimrod as a hunter of lions, a miniature Solomon as the husband of thirteen Rajput and five Muhammadan ladies. On the strict validity of his Muhammadan marriages some doubts have been thrown by Rajputs of orthodox views. Up to 1856, Vibaji had no male issue, but in that year one of the Muhammadan ladies presented him with a son, Kalubha, whom, in 1872, he persuaded the Government of India to recognise as his heir. Kalubha was a failure, and in consequence of his misdeeds he, as well as his son Lakhna, a boy of four, was in 1887 disinherited for ever and banished, with a pension to Bombay. Being apparently hopeless of a natural heir, Vibaji in 1895, again with Government sanction, adopted a cousin, who died shortly afterwards. Then was adopted Ranjitsinhji, nephew of

the deceased adopted son. He was recognised as heir to the State, and was sent for education to the Rajkot College, and, later, to Cambridge. There seemed no doubt that he would succeed when in 1882, another of Vibaji's Muhammadan wives gave birth to a son. Vibaji, in 1884, applied for permission to set aside Ranjitsinhji, whose adoption had been conditional on none of the Rani's becoming the mother of a boy. The wording of the agreement does not appear to have made any distinction between Rajput and Muhammadan Rani, so the Government of India, in opposition, it is said, to the advice of the local authorities accepted Vibaji's proposals, and was deaf to the appeals of Ranjitsinhji's natural father on behalf of his son, then only 13 years old. When Vibaji in 1895, slept with his forefathers, Jaswantsinhji, his son by the Muhammadan wife, reigned in his stead till August last, when he also died, leaving no son, natural or adopted.

Ranjitsinhji now claims to be reinstated in the position of heir from which, in 1884, he was ousted through no fault of his own. His principal opponent is Lakhna, who was disinherited for ever along with his father Kalubha, on account of the latter's misdeeds, in 1877. There are also several Rajput claimants, more or less distant relatives of Vibaji.

The position of the Government of India in relation to successions to the Feudatory States has been thus summarised by Sir Alfred Lyall:—"No subordinate principality can pass to an heir, whether by adoption or ordinary succession, without the assent of the paramount Power, a condition that is undoubtedly based on established usage and long tradition." This right was never denied in the times of the Muhammadan Emperors, to whom the British succeeded, though, in the case of the outlying States, it was not always possible for them to exercise it completely. Many a succession was fought out with the sword by the various claimants, the successful party, thereafter, making his peace, and being recognized de facto by the suzerain. Even under British rule, in the days before telegraphs and railways facilitated communication, the Governor-General sometimes found his hand forced. Less than three-quarters of a century ago, the precipitate, perhaps suspicious, action of a local official, in installing a distant relative of a deceased chief, compelled the Central Government to accept the fait accompli, instead of taking advantage of the opportunity, as it might have done, to limit the privileges of the new chief. Such cases can hardly occur now.

In the majority of cases the succession to a vacant gadi is a mere matter of form. But, occasionally, there occur cases where, as with Nawanagar, the Viceroy is called upon to decide which of several claimants is the most suitable, as well as the best entitled to succeed. Sometimes the rightful heir may be disqualified by misconduct to govern the State; in other instances it may be doubtful with whom the right lies.

Lord Dalhousie held that, save in exceptional circumstances, it was the right, and even the duty, of Government to annex a State to which there was no natural heir, and he acted accordingly. Since the Mutiny of 1857, the doctrine has been abandoned. All ruling chiefs, Muhammadan as well as Hindu, have been granted the right to adopt, in default of natural heirs. Even when this right has not been exercised there is never the slightest probability of annexation nowadays. Where, as in the instance of Jhalawar, no one can be found with a strong claim to succeed a deposed chief, the Government has preferred to annexation the gift of the State to some representative of allied families. Against Lakhna, Ranjitsinhji's claim seems to be very strong, for it is difficult to see how the disinheritance of 1877 can now be cancelled. Moreover, there can be little doubt that the great body of Rajput

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Princes, as well as the people of Nawanagar, would prefer a pure Rajput rather than the son of a Muhammadan woman. It is said that the great aristocracy of Rajputana viewed with considerable disfavour the recognition of the late Jam, on the ground of his Muhammadan blood. Also, when some years ago a Rajput chief proposed to appoint as his successor his son by a Muhammadan wife, the idea was universally condemned by his own Rajput nobles, as well as by his brother chiefs. In the case of the other Rajput opponents of Ranjitsinhji this objection does not exist. On the strength of their claims, we have neither the materials nor the wish to hazard an opinion. Nevertheless, it is probable that the sympathies of most Englishmen will be on the side of the man they know, rather than with the claimants of whom they know nothing. As for the feeling of the people of Nawanagar, we may quote, for what it is worth, the following passage from a native paper of Kathiawar:—"It is an open secret that the people of Jamnagar, or rather of Kathiawar as a whole, and the Rajput Princes favour the idea of K. S. Ranjitsinhji being installed on the Jamnagar gadi." It is reasonable to suppose that, in the absence of any very predominant claims of others by relationship to the ruling family, the Government will give great weight to the wishes of the people of Nawanagar, and to the opinion of the great body of Rajput Princes, who constitute the military aristocracy of the Hindu race. Nor, probably, will it be forgotten how hard has been the lot of Ranjitsinhji in being deprived by a turn of fortune of the prize which, in 1882, before the birth of the late Jam, seemed certainly assured to him.

THE OPIUM EDICT.

London, Dec. 9. The Chinese are evidently thoroughly in earnest to eradicate the opium evil, and Yuan Shih-kai has most strictly instructed the Customs and Police to enforce the regulations. The Government is sending copies of the regulations to the Provinces and villages.

In connection with this Reuter's message the following telegram in the "Times" of November 23, will be read with interest:—

Peking, Nov. 22.

The edict abolishing the use of opium which was issued on September 20 commanded the Council of State Affairs to draft regulations giving effect to the Imperial decree. These regulations, which were drafted by Tang Shaoyi and approved by the Council of State, received yesterday the Imperial sanction and will be promulgated immediately. They are more drastic than any regulations ever before issued in China and do honour to the enlightened official whose patriotism, supported by the influence of the Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai, prompted the issue of the Imperial edict referred to. The regulations are 11 in number and are as follows:—

1. Not only the cultivation of the poppy but the use of opium must cease within ten years. No new ground can be placed under cultivation and ground under cultivation must be restricted by one-tenth annually. If the regulation is evaded, the ground can be confiscated. Rewards will be given if the abolition is completed earlier.

2. Some 30 to 40 per cent. of the Chinese use opium. Every one who uses it must be registered either at the Yamen or with the village headman. The amount consumed must also be registered. No one can buy opium unless he is registered. No one will be permitted to begin the use of opium after the issue of these regulations.

3. This provides for the method of decreasing the use. Those above 60 years of age are leniently treated; those under 60 must decrease their use 20 per cent. per annum. If this regulation is evaded, punishments will be inflicted. For example, magistrates will be cashiered and scholars deprived of their degrees. Those who at the end of ten years are still addicted to the use of opium will have their names posted in public places.

4. Shops selling opium will be closed gradually. All opium dens where opium is smoked will be compulsorily closed within six months. Neither wine shops nor inns can allow smoking on the premises. Persons who sell smoking requisites—pipes, lamps, etc.—must cease to do so within one year. The taxes now collected on opium lamps must not be collected after one month from the date of issue of these regulations.

5. All opium shops and everything connected with the trade

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must be officially registered and gradually closed, and no new shops will be allowed to open. No one can buy opium without presenting a ticket of registration. Shops must present an annual statement showing a decrease of sales. If this regulation is evaded, the shops can be confiscated with all their contents and their owners punished.

6. Officials must arrange to distribute among people addicted to the use of opium either prescriptions or medicines counteracting the use at cost price or gratuitously. No prescription thus given shall contain opium, morphia, or opium ashes.

7. Anti-opium societies must be established to exert the discontinuance of the use of the drug. Such societies, if already working, must receive official encouragement and support.

8. Officials and gentry are ordered to give mutual help in enforcing the regulations. Reports must be furnished to the Council of State Affairs. Officials who have fully carried out the regulations will be rewarded.

9. Officials must set an example. Officials above 60 years of age whose cravings are great must be treated leniently. All high officials, princes, dukes, viceroys, and Tartar generals under 60 must not screen themselves, but must inform the Throne that they are willing to cease their use of the drug within a certain time. During that time they can have a substitute. When they are cured they can resume their duties. All other officials under 60, no matter how great their craving, must abandon the use within six months. If unable to discontinue the habit, they can retain their rank, but must retire from office. But those who falsely pretend to abandon the habit and continue the use of opium secretly will be deprived of both rank and office. All teachers, scholars, soldiers, and sailors throughout all ranks will be allowed three months wherein entirely to abandon the habit.

10. The Wai-wu-pu is commanded to approach the British Minister with reference to the annual reduction of opium imported, so that the importation may be ended within ten years. Since opium is also imported from Persia, French Indo-China and the Dutch colonies, the respective Ministers must also be approached, but in the case of non-treaty Powers China will act independently. Strict regulations must be enforced against the smuggling of opium. Morphia and hypodermic syringes for its use being even more injurious than opium, therefore Article 11 of the Mackay Treaty of September 7, 1902, and Article 16 of the American treaty of October 8, 1903, must be given effect to, and the manufacture of morphia in China forthwith prohibited, whether by Chinese or foreigners.

11. The Viceroys and high officials must forthwith issue proclamations throughout the Empire embodying the foregoing regulations.

THE COUNTRY AND THE DRUG.

Later.

I had an interview yesterday at Tien-tain with the Viceroy, Yuan Shih-kai, with special reference to the new opium regulations. There can be no question that in this province under his direction the regulations will be stringently enforced. The Viceroy entertains the hope that they will meet with universal approval among the Western peoples. Their enforcement will be real evidence of sincerity and cannot fail to have an important effect upon the well-being of the Empire. Unfortunately, one effect of having constantly to telegraph instances of the Chinese Government's disregard of its obligations is to obscure the fact that the people are striving after better things; that, while there is much to condemn, a healthy spirit is abroad in the land. These drastic regulations are an immense step in advance. As opium is being driven out of the new foreign-drilled army of China, so can its use be abolished in other Government offices. Formerly the characteristic of the Chinese brave was his use of opium; now the most estimable feature of the new Chinese soldier is his freedom from the habit. The press unanimously condemns its use and speaks with contempt of officials addicted to its use. The time, therefore, was well chosen for the new regulations.

In approaching the British Minister regarding the restriction and final prohibition of the import of Indian opium, China will, I believe, ask that the Indian Government shall consent to China's levying an increased import duty. The Chinese contend that the present duty amounts to little more than 5 per cent. ad valorem on the selling price in China. Apparently the duties on imported opium and the tax on home-grown opium are equal; actually the duty on Indian opium is about half, because the imported opium is considered to have double the strength of the native opium. The request, therefore, cannot be regarded as unreasonable. I venture to suggest that when China approaches the British Government in this connexion the opportunity should be taken to remove the senseless prohibition against the export of opium which is enforced in every treaty. Opium is a valuable article and readily marketable, but there is no freedom of export for it, even to

THE SONA.

BY JOHN DUDLEY.

Such fate was theirs---But now the cheering strains
Of kindred sprites, call Sona to the plains.
"Come, much-lov'd Deva, hither come," they cry,
"And quaff with us, the cup of rural joy."
"Bask 'mid the glories of the blooming year ;
"Inhale perfumes, and Nature's concerts hear."
"Let not ambitious love thy heart control,
"Or disappointment deaden all thy soul :
"Love reigns but one, mid crores of heavenly powers ;
"Various is joy ;---and many a joy is ours."
Glad Sona hears the voice of heavenly truth,
And feels the light vivacities of youth
He quits the gloomy Tarn, and blithe and gay,
Down toward the vales, brisk wins his various way.
Though countless rocks in mingled ruin hurl'd,
When changing Menus saw the shatter'd world,
Thick down the dells in spiteful tumult close,
And rudely Sona's free escape oppose ;
Yet vain their efforts : he, in laughing scorn,
Springs o'er their heaps, in foamy splendour borne,
Or winds, clear sparkling, through their loose array,
And murmuring ehides their idle poor delay.
These barriers pass'd, his dancing wave he leads
'Mong herds, disporting on the emerald meads ;
And bids them lave, when burns the noontide beam,
And drink sweet coolness from his limpid stream.
Meanwhile the fountain sprites, from urns well fill'd
With limpid wealth, 'moong cloud-capp'd heights distil'd,
Pour many a streamlet bright, through hurrying hie
To grace his train, and swell his dignity---
Them Sona welcomes, and, now full and bold,
Their powerful course his rapid waters hold.
They seek those scenes where kindred Devas hail
Him, glad returning to the spacious vale.
Joy triumphs now, the reign of grief is o'er,
And Sona thinks of love and care no more :
For aye, his kindred friends with busy toil
Scoop large his passage through the yielding soil ;
His willing waters lead, with friendly hand,
To give and gather pleasure through the land.
His willing waters own the kind control,
And golden-arm'd, meand'ring on, they roll,
Deep piercing now the forest's palmy shade,
Now bright disporting in the sunny glade ;
They now perfumes in ecstasy inhale,
Such as Malaya flings upon the gale ;
Or now reflect the dark 'Tamala's grove,
While loud the Cocil chants his song of love.
Onward they fare, through fields of ripening grain,
Great Lacshmi greeting mid her rich domain,
To those fair realms, where Patna's walls unfold
Full peopled roofs, and towers high tipp'd with gold.
There Sona seeks, the heav'n-born Ganga's shores,
And offers, pious, all his wat'ry stores.
Nor can great Ganga such a gift disdain ;
She ranks him 'mong the worthiest of her train.
"Come genial god---blest son of Chandra's line,
"I know," she cries, "thy will accords with mine :
"Like mine, thy streams beneficent I know,
"Like mine, full fraught with life and health they flow.
"Downward from hence, in many a league display'd,
"The arid plains demand our annual aid ;
"Give we that aid. 'Tis Ganga's fond request ;
"And Sona then shall see the nations blest ;

"For o'er their realms our mingling streams shall pour.
"And load with rich abundance laughing Gour."

Sona, approving, hears the words benign,
And blends him instant with the stream divine---
Now tow'rd their purpose, mazy swift they hie ;
And aided by the torrent-shedding sky,
Assert, benevolent, their wondrous reign
Full o'er each district of Bengala's plain.
Like Ocean's self, their floods stretch wide around,
Like Ocean's self, the far horizon bound.
Raft-borne, the swain now traverses the field,
That dusty late with panting steers he till'd ;
Marks how his rice its moated head uprears ;
Or floating home, his wave-won harvest bears,
His bank-built home, just o'er the flood it peers,
The plashy refuge of his wading steers.
Still onward rolls the flood---and bids its wave,
The heads, high branching, of the forest lave
Now o'er those scenes the buoyant trav'ler sails,
Where late in shade he woo'd the welcome gales.
The Seapoy, while he stalks his nightly round,
Wears 'gainst his fortress side, the waters bound ;
And sees, as Arun spreads his morning beam,
The city painted on the circling stream ;
Her wakening sons of trade or pleasure see,
Ply thick their sails, and fly before the breeze.
Meantime th' enrich'd, the saturated soil
Prepares to recompense the ploughman's toil :
Quaffs deep those liquid stores, that well shall feed
Its nurslings nursing from the soften'd seed ;
And rear the juicy stalk in green display,
Luxuriant toasting in the blaze of day.
The shrubs revive, that droop'd in scorching hours,
And form anew their essence-breathing flowers.
With life renew'd, the woods their veins distend,
And bid their boughs with future fruitage bend.
Thus, Ganga, flow thy streams with blessings stor'd,
Those heaven-born streams, thro' countless realms ador'd.

REIS & RAYYET.

Saturday, December 15, 1906.

THE GRAND CHORD RAILWAY.

THE East and West have met on the platform of Railways and the harbour of steam-boats, and the East seems to realise that the West has been an instructor of the modern sciences that contribute to the material well-being of a nation.

No instructed person acquainted with modern India would hesitate to assert,
writes Mr. G. W. MacGeorge in his "Ways and Works in India,"

that in the whole history of government---not excluding that of ancient Rome---no alien ruling nation has ever stamped on the face of a country more enduring material monuments of its activity than England has done, and is doing in her great Indian dependency. Not only has she covered the face of British India with a mileage of roads, railways, telegraphs, and irrigation canals, which, bearing in mind the vast area of the country, and the financial difficulties encountered may be truly designated stupendous, but the total number of individual works of exceptional magnitude and importance comprised in the whole, probably surpasses that to be found in any equal continuous area in any other part of the world.

The Indians with feeling gratitude echo the above. They are not blind to the many and varied blessings the Railways have conferred on them. We do not deprecate extension of Railways, but plead for a greater moderation in that respect and

for a policy by which Railways can be made the unmixed blessings that they are in other countries. As a factor in the progress of the people in general civilisation, the service of Railways has been invaluable. In times of famine, the work of relief operations has been greatly helped by these iron roads. They have in some localities stimulated production by creating fresh markets. But the grateful Indians yet differ from the Government in its Railway policy of spending millions of borrowed money year after year without any regard for the financial difficulties of the State and the economic conditions of the country. Railways are not the only means of ameliorating the condition of the people. They cannot produce wealth, but can only help in its distribution. Of the public works in India, those of Railways and Irrigation are proud achievements of our rulers. In the former, British capital has been invested with very great success. The shareholders have earned a rich harvest at the cost of the Indians. Works of irrigation enable the rayyet to grow two bushels of corn where he could grow only one. It is a notorious fact that, in regard to irrigation, the policy of Government is half-hearted and by no means as liberal as it is in regard to Railways. It has been urged on the attention of Government many times that the Railways required for the protection of the people against famine, according to the recommendation of the famine commission, have been completed and that there is therefore no longer the same urgent necessity for further extension of Railway by borrowed capital. We must not forget to take note that the railways are meant for military purposes. Lord Elgin said that "even irrigation works, all important as they are in certain localities, can scarcely claim such far-reaching results as railways; at all events, unless irrigation and railway works proceed simultaneously." Since the inauguration of the irrigation scheme in the Southern Presidency by Sir Arthur Cotton, of happy memory, the districts which are favoured with irrigation canals have been remarkable for an unbroken record of a bumper crop from year to year. Kistna and Godavery are the two famous Districts in Madras which have proved to the world what irrigation can do for the agricultural prosperity of a people.

Leaving the Railway and Irrigation policy of the Government, we come to the New Chord Line of the East Indian Railway, which was opened by the Viceroy on the sixth instant. The entire Chord from Sitarampur to Moghal Serai is 281 miles long; its cost has been about 115 lakhs of rupees. It contains two especially important works of much interest, viz., the Sone Bridge at Dehra and the tunnels through the Vindhya hills. The proposals of the John Company of 1846 have been converted into a fact after 60 years. The line passes through a picturesque country.

The road passes through a hilly country, thick with jungle, no a gradually ascending incline through rocky cuttings, glistening with mica, and through three tunnels. The whole country offers a great relief to the eye after the many miles of flat, featureless plain over which the railway passes most of the way to Bombay. This new line, which will shorten the distance from Bombay and Upper India to Calcutta or 50 miles, will besides, by passing through the Jheriah Coal Fields, effect a saving of a distance for coal oreceeding to Cawnpore and Northern India of 110 miles, thus greatly stimulating the coal industry. Besides it passes under the hill of Parsimath, 4,488 feet above the sea, which might therefore perhaps by being served with railway communication become in the Pichmarchi of Bengal.

Mr. Douglas, Agent of the E. I. Ry., in proposing the health of the Viceroy and Lady Minto, said :

The problem of finding the best and the cheapest alignment through the hills was one which necessarily occupied much time and study on the part of our Engineers. It is stated in legendary lore that a famous sage of Northern India travelling south on reaching these hills commanded them to bow down before him so as to afford him an easy passage across. Our Engineers unfortunately did not possess such powers of overcoming nature and so were obliged to adopt latter-day prosaic methods of doing this. You will have seen how the crossing has been effected. It has necessitated the construction of 3 difficult tunnels, many heavy cuttings and high embankments while the line itself rises to a height of some 1,300 feet above sea level.

Mr. Douglas's reference to Hindu mythology is opportune. The incident as related in the Purans is that the Vindhya mountain, being jealous of the mount Meru (Himalay), demanded that the sun should revolve round itself as about Meru. This the sun declined to do; whereupon the Vindhya began to rise higher and higher so as to obstruct the path of the sun and the moon. The Gods being alarmed sought the aid of the sage Agastya, who approached the mountain and requested that by bending down it would give him an easy passage to the south, and that it would retain the same position till his return. This is called Agastya jatra. This the Vindhya consented to do, because, according to one account, it regarded Agastya as its teacher; but Agastya never returned from the South, and the Vindhya never attained the height of Meru, the abode of beati-fied spirits.

While Mr. Douglas could not but be prosaic, the Viceroy, in his reply, had a touch of romance :

All the same, he (Lord Dufferin) beat them (Directors of the John Co.), and turned the first set of the East Indian Railway in 1851. The Company itself had been organised in 1845 by Mr. Stephenson, afterwards Sir Macdonald Stephenson, who was really the pioneer of Indian Railways. But much time was spent, I may, perhaps, in these days say without disrespect, that much time was wasted, in negotiations with the East Indian Company. The contract was not signed till 1849, and the first section of the link to Hughli was not opened till 1854. Many of us often have thought what that day meant, for what terrible things it may afterwards have been answerable, what lives might a few hundred miles of railway have saved for the East Indian Railway has no ordinary history, its early days are tinged with the terrible romance of the Mummy, if the Railway Company had only been a little older what might it not have done in its infancy!

Mr. Chief Engineer Higher may not be higher than sage Agastya. He is less than high—high-et. Still he has a height or glory of his own. With the aid of Mr. Cockshott, in direct charge of the construction, he has shot through the mountain.

Mr. Douglas has no allusion to the legend of the Sone. His view of the greatness of the river is to be drawn from his statement that the bridge that spans it is the second longest in the world. We give elsewhere a portion of the legend as sung by the Vicar of Sibley in 1810.

The usefulness of the Great Chord line is said to be many. First, it will shorten the distance between Calcutta or Moghal Serai and all places beyond by some 50 miles, thus saving time and cost of transport, and the significance of this as regards the latter will be to some extent realised when it is shown that the adjustment of rates and fares, which will follow, means a concession to the public on the traffic by approximately 25 lakhs a year. The next important change is the reduction in charges to the coal-trade to the sum of about 20 lakhs, besides the 25 lakhs mentioned above. The Railway authorities trust that in no long time there large sacrifices of

revenue will be made up. They expect important increase in the volume of their business both in passenger and goods traffic. The reduction in cost of coal transport is bound to give a lift to the manufacturing enterprise, thanks to cheaper coal, in various industrial centres in Northern India. Mr. Douglas has told us that it has been the policy of the East Indian Railway administration "to give the fullest possible advantages affordable by the Railway as a great transporting agency to both the country and its commerce. In passenger fares large reductions have been made from time to time mainly in those of the lower class passengers and with most beneficial results generally, a fact that is evident from the great increased numbers who have been thereby enabled to avail themselves of the use of the railway as a means of travelling." Mr. Morley, in his Budget speech, referred also in glowing words to the vast number of passengers on all the railway lines in India. One of the loudest complaint of the Indian public is the studied inattention to the comforts of the lower class passengers who contribute the largest to the coffers of the Railway companies. The E. I. Ry. authorities are no exception. We can not forget also the recent railway strike which showed the unpopularity of the company with the Indian staff.

The opening ceremony of the Grand Chord Line is remarkable for the absence of Indian element. In his address, Mr. Douglas was pleased to be thankful to native Subordinates as to European. But in the published long list of guests there is not a single Indian name. We do not know who is responsible for this omission or neglect. Have the Bande Mataramists boycotted the new Line, or the Railway authorities boycotted all Indians because of the late strike? When Lord Dufferin opened the Tarakeswar line, many Indians were invited. Mr. Douglas ought to have known that the E. I. R. Co. is greatly indebted to an Indian, the late Bengali merchant Babu Ram Gopal Ghose, who helped the company materially. It was he who recognised the project of the E. I. Ry. and warmly supported Mr (afterwards Sir) MacDonald Stephenson, the Sub-Editor of the *Englishman*, the originator of the scheme and the first Agent. He held a large number of shares and was present with his friends at the opening of the line. For his convenience, his home being at Bagati, the Magra Station was made, and before it, the train would stop there whenever required by him. For insulting him, a European guard was dismissed. But on the Babu's recommendation, the dismissal was converted into temporary suspension, Mr. Stephenson holding that the guard should suffer, as some punishment was necessary to ensure better treatment towards other Indian gentlemen. A native station-master who thought himself great as the great Babu of the station, was impertinent to Babu Ram Gopal, who gave him a severe lesson with his thick stick. Before he could report the matter, the man was dismissed. The present Agent of the East Indian Railway may not, like the first Director General of Commercial Intelligence, care to know the great Bengalis of the present or recent times. But, we may be sure, he will not do anything to compromise the head of the Government. The more we have of the modern Civilization in India, the greater is the breach between the European and the Indian. This distancing of the Indian may not be the direct act of the Govern-

ment, but is sure to reflect on the Viceroy. The completion of the Great Chord, while shortening the distance in one direction, increases it on another line.

THE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

THE chief attractions of the cold season in Calcutta are the Industrial Exhibition, the Indian National Congress, the Minto Fancy Fete and the Amir's Visit. The Exhibition is the fourth of its kind in connection with the Indian National Congress. The political organisation of all India gave birth to an all India Industrial Exhibition. The first Exhibition was held in Calcutta under the auspices of the Congress in Beadon Square, where both the Congress and the Exhibition were located; the last Exhibition was held at Benares. The first Exhibition was managed entirely by the Indians without any official help. The Bombay and Benares Exhibitions gradually assumed larger proportions and importance and Government help was sought for and given. This year in Calcutta Government aid has been fully given and the Exhibition is going to outdo its predecessors. It is said that the Jonbert Exhibition of 1883 will be put into shade. The educative value of Exhibitions is understood by all. We are not going to speak anything on that point. Before the present Exhibition came into being, Bengal, equally with other parts of India, has had her small local shows, fairs and Exhibitions divided into religious, industrial and agricultural. Some of these fairs get financial and other help from Government. The Soneour and Kalimpong shows are well-known for cattle exhibits, Suri and Purnba for cattle and agricultural produce. The Bankura Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition is also a new venture, organised by the Collector of the District.

Several other Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions are held in connection with local religious celebrations. Here, besides the exhibits, popular amusements are provided, and, we think, this is about one of the best places to study the people, for men, women and children take part in these fairs with great gusto. We are now having the healthy competition in different branches of exhibits, industrial and agricultural. While reviewing the District Boards' Report in Bengal, we suggested the holding of Exhibitions in every district of Bengal, or if that is not possible, at least in each district in a division by turn. Nowhere can the officials mix with the public in a free and open manner as in these fairs and Melas.

The Exhibition, though an evolution of the Congress, is treated as a distinct organisation. There are, however, men who would treat it a Swadeshi movement. At least, such is the feeling in Bengal as regards the present Exhibition. These extremists will not tolerate in the grounds any be-deshi articles exhibited or advertised. The Swadeshi spirit, they say, cannot dwell in a place where be-deshi things are seen or heard of. Are our people so thoroughly wedded to the Swadeshi cult, as to do away with every thing foreign? Whatever the doom of the new Swadeshi spirit its voice finds no echo in the active preparations towards the opening, by the Viceroy on the 21st. This creates a split in the camp of the Swadeshites and bodes no good for the continuance of the new spirit.

THE CALCUTTA POLICE COURT.

(Before an Honorary Presidency Magistrate.)

3rd Dec. 1906.

Sookni for Ram Prosad vs. Hira Lal.

Mr. J. N. Banerjee, Counsel for the prosecution, asks that a charge of criminal breach of trust be framed against the accused. He does not say that the evidence is enough for conviction, but urges that the accused should be called upon to explain his conduct towards his client whom, he says, he has grossly wronged. Babu Joteendro Mohun Ghose, the leading pleader for the defence, basing his argument on the statement of the Counsel on the other side—about the insufficiency of evidence for conviction, quotes *Empress v. Jagat Chunder Mozumdar* (3 C. W. Notes p. 491—Ghose, J. and Wilkins J., 12th May 1899) and *Bellew v. Mrs. Parker* (7 C. W. N. p. 521—Harrington, J. and Brett, J., 17th March 1903). In the first, it is laid down

"if neither the complaint nor the evidence for the prosecution makes out any case whatever against this Petitioner, it is manifest that he should not have been charged and so called upon to enter upon his defence; and it follows that he should not be left for a moment longer than is necessary in the position of a person accused of an offence and forced to defend himself against a charge which there is no legal evidence to establish."

In the other case, the High Court Judges say,

"by framing these charges...the Honorary Magistrates indicated that in their opinion there were grounds for presuming that the respective Defendants had committed the respective offences which were charged against them. But having framed the charges the Magistrates, without hearing any further evidence for or against either party, proceeded to dismiss the cases and acquit the Defendants. In our opinion the Magistrates were not entitled to take that course. Having by their action indicated that a prima facie case existed against the defendants...they were bound in our opinion to try those cases before passing any order on the charges which they thought proper to frame."

Baboo Joteendro Mohun Ghose contends, that if a charge were framed on the admittedly insufficient evidence, and he contented himself by simply pleading not guilty, that is, if he refrained from cross-examining any witnesses of the prosecution or examining any witnesses of his own, the court would be bound to convict him on the recorded evidence—which is admitted not to be enough for conviction. I am not sure that this argument necessarily follows. It appears from the report that the Magistrates, after framing the charges, made their order "without giving the accused an opportunity of calling his witnesses or putting his case properly before the Bench." All that the High Court Judges say as I understand the judgment, is, that after the charge, the Magistrates could not make their order without further evidence or deliberation or offering an opportunity for explanation.

The prosecution relies on *R. v. Kellie*, 1 L.R., 17 All. 153, (14th Jan. 1895). The ruling therein of Mr. Justice Atkman, followed in *Buddhu v. Babu Lal*, 1 L.R. 18 All 116, Dec. 9, 1895, has been incorporated in the present Code of Criminal Procedure.

Several adjournments were allowed to the prosecution to enable it to establish the accusation. It entered into various matters, and examined several witnesses. The facts, as brought out by them and pertinent to the present enquiry, are that one Bergansha died possessed of two houses (huts) built on rented land in which there were several tenants paying rent at the rate of Rs. 2 a month for each room. He left two widows—and a child by her, and a maund of brass and copper utensils. The accused, a relative, was, by the two widows, on the advice of a panchayet of their castemen, entrusted with collection of rents and custody of the maund of utensils. He was to pay certain sums to the widows and the child for their maintenance. After a time he stopped the payments for the complainant and her child. That stoppage originated the present complaint. In the first application for process, the charges against the accused numbered many. The Chief Magistrate narrowed them down to one. The complainant in her evidence in this court deposed—

"The rents amounted to Rs. 70 a month. The zamindar's rent, municipal rates and our subsistence cost about Rs. 42 a month, leaving a balance of Rs. 25 a month with the accused. For the last one year ending in last Pous, the balance in his hands was about Rs. 340."

Of this evidence, which, by itself, is not convincing, there is no corroboration, oral or documentary. Nor are the sources of her information given. There is corroboration as regards the delivery of the maund of utensils—but no evidence at all of the accused's misappropriating or converting them or any one of them to his own use.

The prosecution was given ample opportunity, more than the ordinary, to produce evidence as to what sums the accused had had or had collected on behalf of the complainant during a year and what sums he had, during the same period, expended on her account. There is evidence indeed that he collected some rents. The present prosecution is evidently an attempt to make the accused to render an account. On the evidence on record, I do not think this court, however it may be disposed to sympathise with the complainant, can be of any help to her. Until there is evidence, which I do not find, that the accused has misappropriated, in the course of one year, a definite sum, properly ascertained, as the balance of an account, duly taken, he cannot rightly be called upon to make his defence. The complainant must not seek for more than what clause 2 of sec. 222 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, permits.

I find that no case against the accused has been made out which, if unrebutted, would warrant his conviction.

The accused is discharged.

J. C. DUTT.

We have received from the proprietor of "Mulk and Millut" what he calls a prospectus but which is in the form of a proposal inviting opinion on certain points mentioned therein and marked private and confidential. In his letter to us, the proprietor does not seem to treat the matter as confidential. We therefore do not break any confidence by publicly alluding to it.

The All-India Mahomedan activity called the Great Renaissance is to commence it with a daily newspaper in this capital.

"The first sign of a real Renaissance should be, as in Nature, a voice, and that voice our own, no hire-ling's—a Daily Newspaper, which will respectfully lay before a Paternal Government our wants and our hopes, which will inform and educate us in Public Life, which will form 'Public Opinion' among the Mahomedans, which will bring us closer together, which will unite us in sympathy, which will create a Public Spirit in us. What language is to man, a Newspaper is to a community. With an organ of our own, daily making us heard, we will merit and gain the respect of those in whose midst Providence has placed us, and of our benevolent Mother, the Government, and will take our rightful position in the counsels of the Empire."

We have given this extract exactly as we find it. This is, we believe, no specimen of writing for the paper to be stated.

It is proposed to convert the weekly "Mulk and Millut" into a daily and "to make the concern a Joint Stock Limited Liability Company with a Capital of two lacs of rupees divided into shares of Rs. 50 each. The Capital will be controlled by a body of Directors of whom His Highness the Aga Khan, G.C.I.E., will be Chairman. The management will be entrusted to the Proprietor of the 'Habib Matin' and 'Mulk and Millut,' and the conduct of the Paper will be placed in the hands of a competent staff of journalists whose work will be supervised by a Board."

This is a grand proposal, and it may be hoped the Muslims of all India will combine to make the paper a flourishing concern. The policy of the paper being "primarily to strengthen the ties of loyalty that bind the Mahomedans of India to the Imperial Crown and the Union Jack," and "to improve the relations of the Indians and Europeans generally and of Mahomedans and Englishmen

in particular," it is not likely to lack support from the various Governments and Administrations and the Europeans in India. That support is more than half the battle won. The remainder will have to be gained by the conduct, in both the literary and business departments. If the venture succeed, the Muslims of India are sure to make an independent position of their own and outshine all other Indians in the journalistic line.

We believe an attempt was previously made, and the first step taken, to convert into a daily another Moslem weekly now of suspended animation if it still exists.

Before the birth of the daily, or rather the conversion of a weekly into a daily, another weekly journal in the Muslim interest has been started.

There is also a talk of a Calcutta Anglo-Indian daily issuing in the new province, an edition of itself partly, if not wholly, devoted to the Muslim cause.

Then, if the great Aga Khan favours a daily in Calcutta for all Muslims, Nawab Selimulla Bahadur of Dacca is for a Muslim All-India Confederacy.

UNDER date the 13th December, Gazetted on the 15th December, the Governor General has been pleased to nominate Dr. Rashbehari Ghose, C.I.E., D.L., to be an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor General for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations. Dr. Ghose had been such a member during the Viceroyalty of Lord Lansdowne. Lord Minto takes him in again. The *Englishman*, this morning, in announcing the appointment, calls Dr. Ghose Dr. "Dash" Behari Ghose, probably to bring out his spirited vigour of action, his capacity for prompt repartee. Full of courage, Dr. Rash Behari Ghose is sure to make—not cut—a dash in Council, now as before.

Mr. John Macfarlane, Librarian of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, died in England on the 5th instant. The Imperial Library was closed in his memory on the 6th instant. He was the first holder of that office after the Metcalfe Hall and the Calcutta Public Library had ceased to exist. Mr. Macfarlane was Lord Curzon's nominee. Lord Curzon brought him out when he was serving as an assistant in the library of the British Museum. In the Imperial Library Mr. Macfarlane was very popular with the readers. He was ever ready to be of any service to sincere workers. When his own Library failed, he would give letters of introduction to other libraries in Calcutta where the students might get what they wanted. He made the Imperial what it now is. He was accessible to all. During his five years' residence in India Mr. Macfarlane was a familiar figure in learned societies in Calcutta. He was eager to extend his knowledge of French and German among those with whom he had to live. He opened free French and German classes. But when he learned that a certain European gentleman had started a class in Calcutta, he closed his as that would injure the former's interests. Being a new comer in India he tried to enquire with an open mind how best to make his library a useful and popular institution. The deepest sympathy will be felt for Mrs. Macfarlane, married only a year ago. She is a daughter of Mr. C. E. Buckland, C.I.E., late of the Bengal Civil Service.

We have received from the Viceroy's Camp the following:

The many suggestions in the Press regarding the calling in of Philately to assist in the success of the Minto Fancy Fete indicate the keen interest taken in the subject in Calcutta. It has therefore been decided to hold a Philatelic Exhibition, and Mr. Corfield, the energetic Secretary of the Philatelic Society of India, has consented to organise it. The time is too short now to expect an Exhibition on a large scale, but exhibits from Members and Non-Members of the Society are being invited, and a good display should be forthcoming.

The issue of special Stamps is also under consideration,

and it is hoped that something more interesting than current postage stamps, surcharged in with the name of the Fete may be arranged for.

The issue of the 6 anna stamp bearing the late Empress's head prepared many years ago, but which never appeared owing to the death of Her Majesty is also a possibility, though the suggestion could not be carried out in time for the Fete itself.

The susceptibilities of Mr. Justice Rampini were very much affected the other day. Whilst hearing appeals with Mr. Justice Mookerjee a pleader addressed his argument to the junior judge.

"If you are going to have a private conversation with my learned colleague I shall retire," remarked Rampini J., testily.

Mookerjee, J. (to pleader) "Whom were you addressing?"

Pleader—(with surprise) "The Court my Lord."

Rampini, J. "Go on, Sir."

And peace once more reigned. *The Empire, Dec. 10.*

The two judges formed the Court, and the pleader, as he said to the satisfaction of the senior judge, was addressing the Court. It was immaterial, therefore, to which of the judges the pleader's eyes were directed when his words were meant for both. Once Mr. Louis Jackson who was sitting with Sir Barnes Peacock, the Chief Justice, asked the Counsel Mr. Peacock to whom he was addressing. He hesitated to answer, when the Chief Justice asked the Counsel whether it was not the practice in Westminster Hall to address the senior Judge.

We read —

"An Illegal Sentence.—The Second Class Magistrate of Chodavaram, Godavari district, tried Joganna, a Koya woman, and Daniel, a Pariah Christian, for the offences of theft and enticing away a married woman for the purpose of committing adultery and sentenced the first accused to pay a fine of Rs. 20 and the second accused to suffer one month's rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 50, or in default to suffer further rigorous imprisonment for one month. The second accused appealed against his conviction, and the Deputy Magistrate held that the woman having eloped with the second accused of her own free will the offence proved was one of adultery. The Sub-Magistrate, therefore, had no jurisdiction to try the case, and besides there was no complaint in the case by the husband. The Deputy Magistrate accordingly set aside the conviction and sentence. The first accused did not appeal against her sentence, and the District Magistrate of Godavari, in submitting the records of the case as regards her, observed that in a case of adultery a woman could not be convicted as being an abettor. Anyway the conviction could not, he said, be sustained in the face of this finding arrived at by the Deputy Magistrate. The record came on for disposal on Tuesday before Mr. Justice Subramania Aiyar, his Lordship set aside the conviction and directed the refund of the fine."

The woman gets the benefit of the appeal by the man. How many illegalities are committed every day in our law courts!

A REVIVAL.

That old and well-known Bengali Monthly

The Bandhab,

has been revived under the Editorship of the famous and veteran litterateur, R. K. Prasad Bahadur. Price Rs. 3 per annum. Postage annas 6.

UMESH CH. BASU.

Sub-Editor and Manager.

Bandabkuttur, Dacca.

London, Dec. 10. The French Separation Law comes into force to-morrow. In view of the Pope's prohibition of the formation of religious associations, which will be required under the Separation Law, the Government has recently decided to facilitate religious services under the ordinary Public Meetings Law, thus considerably modifying its requirements in favour of the churches. The Pope has now prohibited compliance with these modifications. M. Briand, Minister of Public Instruction and Worship, who was hitherto most conciliatory, declares that this incitement to violate ordinary law has entirely changed the situation and that the Government will act with an energy equal to its previous conciliatory attitude. M. Briand has directed prosecution in the case of all breaches of the law.

The Pope's intervention at the last moment has greatly disconcerted the French Bishops, who had authorised the priests to apply for permission to hold services under the public meetings law.

London, Dec. 10. Many thousands attended a great reactionary meeting at St. Petersburg. Father John of Cronstadt blessed the banner of the "Union of Russian People" and denounced the Duma.

London, Dec. 10. In the Commons Mr. Birrell said the Government had decided to ask the House to return to the Lords their amendments on the Education Bill as a whole, because they were destructive to the main principles of the measures. He hoped the Lords would then substitute others more limited in their scope. Government was prepared to consider some concession, but anything like the present amendments were quite unacceptable, and if the Lords persisted, the Bill would be sacrificed.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman moves the resolution to-morrow; it is believed this course is unprecedented. A portion of Mr. Birrell's forecast of the proposed concessions was received with the disapproval of a section of the Ministerialists.

Dec. 11. The House of Commons was crowded last night, and numerous Peers were in the galleries.

Mr. Birrell explained that Government had resolved to return the amendments of the Education Bill to the Lords, not because all were bad, but because they would involve at least eighty divisions, and endless prolongation and complication of debate. The resolution which Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman moves to-day rejecting the Lord's amendments "en bloc" is quite unusual, its object is supposed to be to throw the whole responsibility on the Lords.

Mr. Balfour declared that the Government's action would constitute a precedent absolutely destructive of free criticism, and he would rather see the Bill perish than adopted in the Government's shape.

Mr. Redmond said that if the Bill failed to pass owing to Government refusing to make concession, it would be most serious for the Government and for the Liberal Party.

Mr. Perks warned the Government that the Non-conformists had reached the utmost limits of concessions.

Dec. 12. The Commons, by 317 votes against 89, have adopted Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's resolution to deal with the Lord's amendments to the Education Bill "en bloc." Mr. Lough then moved the rejection of the amendments. The debate on this was adjourned, and is expected to continue till Thursday. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman disclaimed any desire to provoke a conflict with the Lords.

In the debate in the Commons last night Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said, as he was still hopeful that a solution of the differences with the Lords might be found, but the chances of the same would be imperilled if the amendments were considered individually. There were at least forty amendments with which it was impossible Government could agree. He believed the Lords considering the amendments as a whole realise what they had done, and it was probable that counsels of peace and moderation will prevail.

Mr. Balfour characterised the Government procedure as "unprecedented and insulting, and planned in order to escape awkward discussion."

Mr. Asquith said Government did not want to kill the Bill, because, apart from the religious difficulty, it contained invaluable provisions for the betterment of education.

The "Conciliatory" tone of the speeches of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. Asquith, it is believed, indicate the possibility of a compromise.

The Premier conferred with the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace yesterday.

Dec. 13. The Commons, by 416 against 197 votes, have de-

cided to reject the Lords' amendments to the Education Bill "en bloc."

Mr. Birrell, in the Commons said, Government was most anxious to save the Education Bill, and he hoped the Lords would realise the necessity for mutual concession.

Mr. Balfour said if the Bill was lost Government's procedure was responsible.

Mr. Asquith said, if the solution embittered and strife was attained, Mr. Balfour was responsible.

London, Dec. 11. The house of Monsignor Montagnini, Papal representative in Paris, was searched to-day and he was arrested and will be conveyed to the Frontier to-night.

The Council of Ministers this afternoon decided upon the immediate liquidation of Church property, add to call upon 5,500 Seminarists to perform military service.

Great excitement prevails at the Vatican. The Pope, discussing the situation, said he was grieved at the necessity for resorting to extreme measures, but it was indispensable. "Neither persecution nor martyrdom will prevent us protecting our religion. Our cause is God's cause."

Dec. 12. In the French Chamber, M. Clemenceau explained that Monsignor Montagnini was expelled because he handed to certain French priests instructions from a foreigner, namely, the Pope, to disobey the French Law. If the Church wanted war, it could have it, but it could avoid it by conforming to the law.

Several Archbishops and Bishops have already received notice to quit their residences.

Dec. 13. At the instance of M. Pichon, the French Chamber has adopted a Resolution gradually to substitute secular for religious schools in the East. M. Pichon announced his intention of establishing schools at Cairo and Alexandria.

Two leading French Catholic laymen have applied for permission under the ordinary Public Meetings Law for all the Churches in Paris. The permission asked for, if granted, holds good for the space of a year.

Unless His Holiness the Pope intervenes in the matter, this arrangement appears to promise a general settlement of the present impasse.

Later advices from Paris state that the Provincial Clergy do not recognise the competence of laymen to interfere in affairs of Church discipline.

The Provincial Clergy are leaving their residences and seminaries, and are prepared to conduct services to-day without giving the notice required under the Separation Law.

Monsignor Montagnini has arrived at Rome, and drove straight to the Vatican. The Papal organs vehemently resent the affront to the Pope's representative. The French Government they say is grossly mistaken if it thinks it can intimidate the clergy or break down dutiful and legitimate resistance.

In the Press. Price. Rs. 20. For Subscribers Rs. 16.

INSTITUTES.

of

MUSULMAN LAW.

With references to Original Arabic Sources and decided Cases from 1792--1906.

VOLUME I.

by

A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Esq.,

Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, Judge, Presidency Court of Small Causes, Calcutta. Formerly, Member of the Faculty of Law and Syndicate of the University of Calcutta, &c., &c.

Opinion of the Honourable Sir John Sanley, Kt., Chief Justice, High Court, Allahabad, who has kindly inspected the manuscript:—

"The scheme and arrangement of the book appears to me admirable; and the introduction of Arabic texts will prove a valuable addition to the text. So far as I can judge, the work will be of the greatest help to lawyers."

Calcutta:—Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.

QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE INDIAN PEOPLE.

(From Our Correspondent.)

Westminster, Nov. 23.

Apocryph of Mr. Morley's remarks on racial jealousy and animosity, there is an interesting passage written by Queen Victoria to be found in the Life of the Duke of Cambridge which is to be published next week by Messrs. Longmans. "I hope you will strongly condemn," the Queen wrote to the Duke in the closing days of her Jubilee year, "the disgraceful habit of speaking of the 'black man' which is as wrong as it is untrue. The East Indians are of the same origin as we ourselves, and have quite the same features as we have. I have now had for nearly six months two Indians constantly about me, attending to me in my room and helping me in many ways, and I never saw better servants or more amiable, more high and well bred people, or more attentive, intelligent and devoted in their service. Many who have been in India will tell you the same, and it is disgraceful to think how shamefully they are often used by the young Englishmen, officers and civilians." These words might well be commended to those who oppose the concession of justice to the British Indians in the Transvaal, as well as to many of the British in India. The book from which they are taken furnishes, by the way, many other instances of the keen interest which the late Queen took in Indian affairs. There are many references to the Mutiny days—a subject upon which numerous letters passed between the Queen and the Duke of Cambridge. One written in 1857 is worthy of attention. The Queen was returning despatches from Sir Colin Campbell—that gallant old soldier of whom Her Majesty wrote, "How I wish I could fly there and place a wreath of laurel on dear old Sir Colin's brow!" In commenting upon Sir Colin's despatches the Queen wrote: "The news really is far better, and it is evident that this revolution has not extended to the inhabitants, for which reason great justice and forbearance must be shown towards them, while (alas!) summary punishment must be dealt to the mutineer soldiers. I think it will, however, turn out that a good many of those dreadful stories of torture and mutilation are not true, or at least greatly exaggerated. Several instances (a Colonel and Mrs. Farquharson amongst others) have proved to be sheer invention, and our evidence depends almost entirely upon the evidence of natives." In commenting upon this passage the author remarks that when it is remembered that at this time the wildest stories of outrage, torture, and mutilation were accepted without question by the whole of the inhabitants of these islands, from peer to peasant, and that even a Queen, could write of "awful atrocities perpetrated upon women and children," and "foul and outrageous upon the defenceless," the dispassionate view taken by Queen Victoria appears the more remarkable. The verdict of history has amply confirmed the Queen's prophecy. "The blood of women and children," she adds "was indeed ruthlessly spilt, but of outrages upon women, of premeditated tortures, and of wanton mutilations the soul of India is clear." The sympathy of the Queen with her Indian subjects was shared by Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Morley, who had so many thoughts in common with his old chief, must have been in personal agreement with the views which were laid before him by the deputation yesterday. There is a passage in his "Life of Gladstone" which shows this clearly enough. Have not modern times, he asks, established a sisterhood of nations, equal, independent, each of them built up under the legitimate defence which public law affords to every nation living within its own borders, and seeking to perform its own affairs? It would be interesting to know if Mr. Morley had these lines of his in mind when he showed such an earnest desire yesterday to further, as far as lay in his power, the principles which were laid down by the Transvaal deputation.—The Statesman, Dec. 11.

LOWER GANGES BRIDGE PROJECT.

India Office,

Whitehall, S. W.

6th November 1906.

Dear Sir Ernest Cables.

I am desired by Mr. Morley to acknowledge the receipt of your and Mr. Nimmo's joint letter of the 2nd instant, referring to various projects that have been put forward for the construction of a railway bridge over the Lower Ganges.

You ask in effect for an assurance that there is no immediate intention of granting a concession to the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company for the construction of a bridge at Godagiri, and that the views of the mercantile community in favour of the Sara Bridge shall be fully considered before any final decision is passed on the relative merit of the various sites proposed.

In the communications that have passed between Mr. Morley's predecessors and the Government of India on this subject, the view has been hitherto maintained that looking to the great expense and engineering risks involved in this enterprise, it would be wiser to defer a decision as to the site of the bridge until further experience had been acquired of the direction taken by the traffic on the completion of the Katihar-Ranaghat lines whose construction had been determined on. No occasion has arisen for any sudden departure from this policy, and in any case you may be assured that no decision will be passed on this important scheme without the fullest consideration being paid to the wishes of the commercial community of Calcutta.

Mr. Morley is sure that you will not expect him to anticipate the result of the deliberations which this question will require when it comes up for disposal. He has reason to believe that the Government of India will shortly address him on the question of bridging the Ganges, and until he has received an intimation considered their views in Council, he can give no pledge as to his future action in the matter, beyond assuring you that nothing will be done without complete enquiry into the facts and careful consideration of all the interests involved.

In the last paragraph of your letter, you suggest the appointment of a small local Commission, on which the Bengal Chamber of Commerce should be represented, to investigate the whole project independently on the spot. Mr. Morley does not know what form the investigations of the Government of India into the facts affecting the decision of this question will take, but he will see that your proposal is forwarded to the Government of India for their consideration.

I am,
Yours very truly,
F. A. HURZEL.

THE LATE RAJA JAHANDAD KHAN

The commencement of the twentieth century has been marked in the Muslim Punjab by the disappearance of almost all its notables of the older generation. The number of elderly members of the community who towered head and shoulders above their contemporaries is fast going down, and the Punjab Muzimmas have almost every month to mourn the loss of some venerable leader or other. This feeling of sorrow has been accentuated by the passing away, on the evening following the 'Hul-Fat', of one of the best Punjabi noblemen of the old type. On the 18th instant, the awful hand of death struck off Khan Bahadur Raja Jahandad Khan Khan, C.I.R., the Chief of the Gakhar tribe in the Province, and one of the most popular and recognised leaders of the Muslim community. Raja Saib seems to have been afloat on the eve of the 'Id. On Sunday he had an attack of heart failure while in his residence at Khanpur in the Huzara District and passed to his rest the same evening.

There are very few persons in this Province who possess the

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI

President

Sushil Gupta Chandra Sekar, M.A., B.L.

Vakil, High Court.

Secretary.

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Assistant Secretary

Panait Narayan Chandra Vidyaratna.

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Babu Amulya Dhan Pal.

Accountant.

Babu Saraga Prayanna Chattopadhyaya
and

A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their V.Kanya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408 9 6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasury at Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donation to the Secretary as soon as possible.

magnetic power peculiar to Raja Jahandad Khan, the faculty of winning the esteem and good-will and confidence of all with whom he came into contact. His was a unique personality. He was popular with every class of his co-religionists, he was looked up to with respect and veneration by the Hindus, he enjoyed the good will of the European officials, and he was implicitly trusted by the Government. This is certainly a rare combination, and it is met with only among men who are permeated with the spirit of a healthy righteous life, a sort of Sufism which prompts you to admire the good attributes of others and to tolerate their lesser, admirable qualities. It connotes a selfless soul free from hypocrisy, dissimulation and fanaticism. And such indeed was the soul of Raja Jahandad Khan. Unselfish, sincere and humble, he won the respect of all sorts and conditions of men who had the privilege of being brought into his company. His knowledge of Muslim religious literature, of Sufism, of the great masters of Persian and Arabic prose and poetry, was vast; and it was an intellectual treat to listen to his conversation. His words were full of anecdotes, studded with quotations from the Quran and the Traditions and embroidered with choice verses. He disregarded altogether the harmful conventions which stand as barriers between the nobility and the masses. The Raja was ever ready to recite verses from the Quran in melodious tone and always carried with him an artistically written copy of the Holy Book, which rare piece of art he was not prepared to part with for love or money. He was a patron of literature and exhibited readiness to help men of learning and genius, which was the distinguishing mark of the old literate nobility. As for his knowledge of history, it may be mentioned that he had prepared a history of the Gakkhars. He showed to the world that his tribe was altogether innocent of the murder of Shah-an-ud-Din Ghori, the real culprits being the Khukhars and not the Gakkhars. As Trustee of the M. A. O. College, he was helpful in advancing the cause of education among the Mussalmans.

A man of such merits and attainments could not but be regarded with favour by the Government. His services were utilised by the State on several occasions and he acquitted himself of his duties in a conscientious manner, which elicited the admiration of all and sundry. When the kingdom of Afghanistan was handed over to Amir Abdur Rahman Khan, he was assistant to Sir Lepel Griffin, the then political officer at Kabul. On the demise of His Highness, he was selected by Government to head the Deputation sent by them to perform the "Fatiha" ceremony on behalf of the Government of India and won the thanks of the authorities for the admirable discharge of the functions with which he was entrusted. Quite recently Sir Harold Deane was a guest of the Raja at Khanpur. The Chief Commissioner eulogised his host's services to the State, his piety and his popularity, proposed the health of the Raja and family and remitted for good a considerable portion of the land tax levied on his estate.

These were some of the characteristics of Raja Jahandad Khan the Good. All readers of Arabic poetry are conversant with the poem composed by the Bedouin whose son had died on the day of the 'Id. Every return of the happy festival added a new garment of sorrow to the bereaved father, when people dressed themselves in the newest and gayest of attires. The association of the 'Id with the demise of the Chief of the Gakkhars will have a similar effect on most of his friends, for his death means not the loss of a doting parent but of a whole community of grateful people.—Observer.

THE HINDUS IN AFGHANISTAN.

An officer who lived in Afghanistan writes as follows:—

I lived in Afghanistan for two years. I visited Kabul and its adjacent villages every day as I had to go there on my duty connected with the political department. There are two Hindu localities and two Hindu burial grounds in Kabul. There are two inns or chattrams also and many Hindu shopkeepers, tailors and grocers in the Kabul bazaar and just as Muhammadan females with veils pass through the streets, similarly Hindu women walk in the streets quite veiled. For the purpose of distinction between a Muhammadan and a Hindu lady, the top-most part of the cap attached to the veil bears black silk in case of the latter (Hindus.) Almost all office-bearers in the revenue and financial departments are Hindus.

All shops and bazaars of Kabul are closed on every Friday. Generally shopkeepers and some wealthy Hindus and Muhammadans go to gardens. They cook their meals there, enjoy the holiday and pass the whole day in singing and playing on the Rabab, a kind of musical instrument. Cages of nightingales hang every where in gardens, and nightingales please the crowds with their singing. Both communities, Muhammadan and the Hindu live amicably, and pass the holiday in a very friendly manner. There are many big Hindu merchants and proprietors of big godowns. Plenty of merchandise is imported and exported from and to India, Turkestan and Russia. Many extensive godowns are full of riches be-

longing to the Hindus. Money lending and banking is the business of the Hindus. On legal steps being taken by the Hindu bankers against their debtors the judicial court takes one-fortieth part of the amount and decides the cases. Decrees are issued very justly. Nothing more than one-fortieth part is taken. The Hindus have freedom of their religion. They perform all their religious ceremonies as freely as they do in the country of any Hindu rajah. There is no immorality either among Muhammadans or Hindus. Their life is far better than what it is in India. I had friendship with many Hindu gentlemen, and I had the opportunity of visiting their houses. Inside the houses I found many decoration and furniture and utensils, manufactured in China and Japan. They (the Hindus) wear dress of the civilised Khoulees, so that a stranger can hardly distinguish between a Hindu and a Mussalman. Sometimes their appeal cases are personally heard by the Amir himself.

In every large village a traveller can find at least one or two Hindu shopkeepers. Mussalman cultivators sell their products through Hindu shopkeepers. All live peaceably and happily.

The British army returned from Kabul on the 11th August 1880, having handed over Kabul to the Amir of Afghanistan, viz. Amir Abdur Rahman Khan. Our first halt took place at Khak. On one side of our camp, we heard a very mournful noise. It was then ascertained that about a dozen Hindus were crying bitterly, because they had to return from Kabul to India. They were very sorry to leave that happy place. On further enquiry it was known that during the time of the martial law they had borne some evidences and therefore they were migrating. If any royal family of Kabul holds a feast or performs a marriage, the Hindus are also invited and separate arrangement is made to serve dinner to them. Similarly the Hindus also invite their Muhammadan friends to their marriages and other happy occasions. In short the Hindus lead a very happy life, nay, the happiest life, in Afghanistan.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of
 a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith
 Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October
 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer
 and there is a breezy freshness and originality
 about his correspondence which make it very
 interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Corft
 K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions
 Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing
 official duties an English Civilian can find
 either time or opportunity to pay so graceful
 tribute to the memory of a native personality
 as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of
 the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the
 well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta:
 Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many
 who are more worthy of being thus honoured
 than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr.
 Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with
 all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with
 lessons for those who desire to know the real
 India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not
 even the "Hindoo Patriot," enjoyed a degree of in-
 fluence in any way approaching that which was
 soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities
 his death from pneumonia in the early spring
 in the last year was a distinct and heavy loss
 to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable
 idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and
 Letters upon record.—The "Times of India
 Bombay) September 30, 1895

For much of the biographical matter that
 issues so freely from the press an apology is
 needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee
 the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an
 explanation would have been looked for. A man
 of his remarkable personality, who was easily
 first among native Indian journalists, and in
 many respects occupied a higher plane than
 they did, and looked at public affairs from a
 different point of view from theirs could not
 be suffered to sink into oblivion without some
 attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual
 expedient of a *life*. The difficulties common to
 all biographies have in this case been increased
 by special circumstances, not the least of
 which is that the author belongs to a different
 race from the subject. It is true that among
 Englishmen there were many admirers of the
 learned Doctor, and that he on his side under-
 stood the English character as few foreigners
 understand it. But in spite of this and his
 remarkable assimilation of English modes of
 thought and expression on Dr. Mookerjee
 remained to the last a Brahman of the Brah-
 mans—a conservation of the best of his in-
 heritance that was nothing but respect and
 approval. In consequence of this, his ideal
 biographer would have been one of his own
 disciples, with the same inherited sympathies,
 and trained like him in Western learning. If
 Bengal had produced such another man as Dr.
 Mookerjee, it was he who should have written
 his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative
 without being needlessly laudatory; it gives
 on the whole a complete picture of the man
 and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Moo-
 kerjee are of such minor importance that they
 might have been omitted with advantage, but
 not a word of his own letters could have been
 spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English
 is to say what is short of the truth. His dic-
 tion is easy and correct, clear and straight-
 forward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving
 after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming
 as when he is laying down the laws of literary
 form to young aspirants to fame. The letter
 on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece
 of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and
 he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a
 would-be poet that his productions are not in
 the smallest degree poetry, without one may
 conclude, either offending the youth or repres-
 sing his ardour.

For much more that is well worth reading
 we must refer readers to the volume itself.
 Intrinsically it is a book worth buying and
 reading.—The Pioneer, (Allahabad) Oct. 2,
 1895.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,250.

LONGFELLOW'S REPLY TO OSLERISM.

OLD AGE.

It is too late ! Ah ! nothing is too late
Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate.
Cato learned Greek at eighty ; Sophocles
Wrote his grand Oedipus, and Simonides
Bore off the prize or verse from his compeers,
When each had numbered more than four score years ;
And Theophrastus at four score and ten
Had but begun his " Characters of Men."
Chaucer, at Woodstock with the nightingales,
At sixty wrote the " Canterbury Tales."
Goethe, at Weimer, toiling to the last,
Completed " Faust " when eighty years were past.
What then ! Shall we sit idly down and say
The night hath come ; it is no longer day !
The night hath not yet come ; we are not quite
Cut off from labor by the failing light ;
Something remains for us to do or dare,
Even the oldest trees some fruit may bear.
For age is opportunity no less
Than youth itself, though in another dress ;
And as the evening twilight fades away
The sky is filled with stars, invisible by day.

... " Medical Advance," October 1906.

BRITISH INDIANS IN THE TRANSVAAL. DEPUTATION TO MR. MORLEY.

The Secretary of State for India received at the India Office on Thursday last (November 22) a deputation to introduce to him the two delegates of the British Indian Association of the Transvaal, Mr. M.K. Gandhi and Mr. H.O. Allie, who have come to this country to protest against the Asiatic Law Amendment Ordinance passed by the Transvaal Legislature in September last, and which now awaits the Imperial sanction. The deputation was headed by Sir Lepel Griffin, and included Lord Stanley of Alderley, Sir Charles Schwann, M.P., Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., Sir Henry Cotton, M.P., Mr. J. D. Rees, M.P., Mr. E. A. Ridsdale, M.P., Mr. H. F. B. Lynch, M.P., Mr. E. A. Ridsdale, M.P., Sir William Wedderburn, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, Sir M. M. Bhowaggee, Dr. T. H. Thornton, and Mr. Theodore Morison.

Sir Lepel Griffin said that Mr. Morley was no doubt aware that a similar deputation waited upon Lord Elgin at the Colonial Office a fortnight ago, and was sympathetically received. They asked Lord Elgin for a veto of the Ordinance and for the appointment of a Royal Commission to investigate fully and impartially the whole question of the position and status of British Indians in the Transvaal. Though the Colonial Secretary gave them no definite assurances, he formed a considerable measure of satisfaction at the reply they received. In going to Mr. Morley they were aware that the appeals made for dissolution of the Ordinance were primarily for the consideration of Lord Elgin, and what they hoped of the Secretary of State for India was his general sympathy and his

the promotion of the appeal, and also his invaluable support in pressing for consideration of the whole question of South Africa policy towards the Indian peoples.

Explanations were given by the two delegates in respect to features of the new Ordinance held by them to be derogatory to their community.

Lord Stanley of Alderley said there could be no doubt that feeling both in India and in this country was opposed to the colonial attitude in respect to our Indian fellow subjects, and that this attitude was a violation of principles to which, in theory, at least, we adhered. These principles were clearly stated by Mr. Chamberlain in 1901 when he refused his sanction to certain legislative proposals from Cape Colony. "The legal position of coloured people will be similar to that which they hold in the Cape Colony. We cannot consent to purchase peace by leaving the coloured population in the position in which they stood before the war, with not even the ordinary civil rights which the Cape Colony has long conceded them."

Mr. Harold Cox, M.P., Sir M. M. Bhowaggee, and Sir Henry Cotton, M.P., having spoken.

Mr. Morley, in reply, said he heartily welcomed their presence that day for two reasons. The first was that he always desired to be familiarised with all currents of feeling relating to the great dependency for whose administration he was responsible to Parliament. The second reason was that this was a practical question affecting the good government of India very closely. The effect upon public opinion in that country of the disabilities imposed upon Indians in South Africa was and must continue to be, serious. Indians returning to their native land from South Africa carried with them the story of the indignities to which they had been subjected, and the result was to stir up strong prejudices. People in India would ask whether it was not want of will, rather than want of power, which led the British Government to stave its hand when it should be raised in defence of those principles to which his friend Lord Stanley of Alderley had referred. For his part he thought great praise was due to Mr. Chamberlain for his enunciation of those principles in 1901 and for the great force and emphasis with which he pressed upon the attention of the Colonial Governments concerned the injustice and harshness of their policy towards British Indians. It was a great irony that one of the first matters in relation to Imperial interests brought to the notice of the new Government had been the fact, from which they could not get away, that a bar sinister was placed in some British Colonies upon many millions of the King's subjects. (Cheers.) Responsible administrators seldom cared to be reminded of great governing principles, but he was glad Lord Stanley had placed the question on that high plane. The views Lord Stanley expressed in this respect might be held by some to be old-fashioned, but he for one shared them entirely. Unfortunately they had not a white sheet of paper whereon to write. Facts must be faced, and in the circumstances all they could do was to keep their principles in mind and to go as near as they possibly could to their practical application, having regard to all the circumstances. What, then, was the position of the India Office in this matter ?

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cheap ill trade mark and all doctors will advise you to take which is a fact.

Of other control policies, the report says, "the most effective solution is by itself requires a wide range of measures, including: redefining zones and boundaries; providing technical assistance; and capacity building; and strengthening the institutional framework." The report also says that the "most effective" way to control the spread of the disease is by "improving the health care system, including the surveillance system, and strengthening the institutional framework." The report also says that the "most effective" way to control the spread of the disease is by "improving the health care system, including the surveillance system, and strengthening the institutional framework."

breeding system is not affected. The use of disinfectants is a waste of time unless they are actually such as to exert a specific effect upon fleas.

There are two other methods of destroying fleas. The first is the use of "Insect Powders;" most insect powders have a basis of Pyrethrum Powder with various adulterants in a less or greater proportion; an individual flea dusted thoroughly with such a powder will be rendered helpless and perhaps die, but, even if the pure Pyrethrum Powder be used, few fleas in a building will be reached and the expense will be enormous.

The second method of killing fleas is the use of vapour poisons; these include the vapour of carbon bisulphide, of Benzene and of Hydrocyanic Acid. A building that is fumigated thoroughly with carbon bisulphide is cleared of all insect life in a more thorough manner than is possible in any other way; this method, however, is not generally practicable and is costly, but where it is necessary to be quite certain that every insect is destroyed, fumigation with carbon bisulphide or hydrocyanic acid is the thorough method.

But the absolute destruction of fleas can be generally effected best by thoroughly washing the floors and walls, with a suitable insecticide; the best insecticide for the purpose being Crude Oil Emulsion, at ten per cent. emulsion in water. This Emulsion has been thoroughly and practically tested during the last three years.

In applying the Emulsion a syringe or sprayer is by far the most economical if much work is to be done. For small quantities a good syringe (the "A-gil" is the best), for large quantities, a Success Knapsack Sprayer should be used, to secure a thorough distribution of the material. If the liquid be applied to the floor and walls in a spray, it will penetrate further, be more effective and very much cheaper than if simply thrown on.

Three pints of the Crude Oil Emulsion are used in one kerosine tin (4 galls) of water, or for one charge of the Knapsack Sprayer. The Crude Oil Emulsion readily mixes with water when stirred up in it and the mixed fluid can be sprayed on to all parts of an infected building very rapidly. If a Success Knapsack Sprayer is to be used the jelly is placed on the strainer and water from the machine pumped on to it, when the emulsion is quickly formed and properly mixed in the sprayer.

Crude Oil Emulsion, Sanitary Fluid, the Abol Syringe and the Knapsack Sprayer can all be obtained in India.

The price of Crude Oil Emulsion is Rs. 9.8 per drum of 5 gallons, making fifty gallons of the Insecticide; this is far less than the price of any other insecticide, excepting Sanitary Fluid which costs about Rs. 12 per drum of 5 gallons.

The Abol Syringe or any other syringe costs about Rs. 9 and a Success Knapsack Sprayer is obtainable for Rs. 46.

Descriptive leaflets of the Knapsack Sprayer and Crude Oil

In the Press. Price. Rs. 20. For Subscribers Rs. 16.

INSTITUTES

of

MUSULMAN LAW.

With references to Original Arabic Sources and decided Cases from 1792--1906

VOLUME I

by

A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Esq.,

Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, Judge, Presidency Court of Small Causes, Calcutta. Formerly, Member of the Faculty of Law and Syndicate of the University of Calcutta, &c., &c.

Opinion of the Honourable Sir John Stanley, Kt., K.C., Chief Justice, High Court, Allahabad, who has kindly inspected the manuscript:—

"The scheme and arrangement of the book appears to me admirable; and the introduction of Arabic texts will prove a valuable addition to the text. So far as I can judge, the work will be of the greatest help to lawyers."

Calcutta:—Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.

Emulsion can be obtained from the Imperial Entomologist who will give any further information required.

Agricultural Research
Institute, Pusa, Bengal,
"August 1906."

H. MAXWELL LEFROY
M.A., F.E.S., F.Z.S.,
"Imperial Entomologist."

[Death has been pronounced on rats by the so-called scientific experts. It is true that there are rats and fleas. But it has not been proved that either rats or their fleas spread plague to man. In the sanitary authorities use their valuable time to teach proper sanitation by distributing pamphlets in vernacular languages, we think that would create far better results than wasting money by killing rats and their fleas. We wish that a sanitary association should be established in Calcutta under the presidency of the Sanitary Commissioner, and there the necessary methods to introduce sanitary measures can be discussed and adopted. The crusade against rats, fleas and many other lower animals and insects may possibly prove ineffective. We would point out to the sanitary authorities,

"Life is real, life is earnest,

But it might be more sublime,

If a man were not kept busy,

Dodging microbes all the time."]

—The Calcutta Journal of Medicine.

REIS AND RAYYET

Saturday, December 22, 1906.

EXHIBITIONS.

THE promotion of trade and manufactures and agriculture by collection of exhibits has no claim to merit or novelty. In modern times, however, it is being more systematically carried out. In Hindu and Musalman India, such ideas were given expression to by holding fairs and shows under court patronage. Individual persons preserved collections of rare things which were the nucleus of modern Museums. During the Moghal period, the Emperors had their *nauroja* or celebration of New Year's day when many exhibits were placed for show, but only for those about the court. When we come to modern times, we find the utility of these shows. In the middle of the eighteenth century, Europe began to feel the necessity of bringing together the wares of the manufacturers, craftsmen, merchants and agriculturists in one place, thus creating the present day Museum, Art-galleries and so on. In 1756-57, the Society of Arts encouraged manufacturers in many ways. Since then, the British people and those of the continent of Europe have caught the idea and the work is going on well. Many exhibitions, more or less of a local nature were subsequently held in London, Dublin, Manchester in England, and in different cities on the continent. All these have been generally successful, and the value of an exhibition on an international scale was keenly felt. It was left to Prince Albert as the president of the Society of Arts to place the idea before the British public in 1848. It took. A Royal commission was issued on the 3rd January 1850, and in the following year, on the 1st of May, Queen Victoria opened the exhibition. It remained open till 11th October, or for 114 days. It was a financial success. After defraying all expenses, there was a balance of £150,000 left over. The magnificent crystal palace was built on the occasion, and exhibitors and visitors from all corners of the globe assembled there. The area covered 19 acres. The number of visitors was about 6,170,000. The immense success of this exhibition encouraged other nations to open local and international exhibitions. The Irish, Americans, French

and Germans all vied with one another in this enterprise. The French nation opened its first great exposition in 1855. It was decidedly an improvement upon the London exhibition of 1851. The second London International exhibition was held in 1862. This was also a great success. There have been great shows in the chief cities in Europe and America. The fourth French International Exhibition was opened by President Carnot in 1889 to commemorate the centenary of the Revolution. The visitors numbered over 25,000,000. The chief feature was the Eiffel tower, of iron, 984ft high.

When we come to India, the history of modernised exhibitions of the British period points out clearly that economically India is a very young country. Its untold wealth remains almost untapped. Only the agricultural wealth is known to the people from hoary antiquity. Many acres there are still to be cultivated. Then it is almost hopeless to resuscitate the dying famous industries.

In Western countries the benefits of exhibitions are soon visible on the people in whose countries they are held. But the case is different in India. The people of India unlike those of Western countries are poor, ignorant, conservative, they move in their own narrow groove. The exhibits of our artisans and mechanics seem to have little or no effect on our people. It is the wealthy foreign manufacturers who go about the country to know the tastes and desires of the people, learn the secrets of our arts and industries, and drive away our own wares by cheap wares of machine manufacture. In this view, every exhibition of our own wares is a loss instead of a gain. Unless we educate our people, it is useless to expect them to improve on any line. It is a well-known fact that Europeans after an Indian Exhibition began to send out to India porcelain Hindu gods. And the German cheap brass utensils have found their way into Indian villages. So an Indian Industrial Exhibition is not an unmixed blessing. The Swadeshi spirit is, however, abroad. Let us hope all for the best.

Lord Curzon opened the 1902 Delhi Indian Art Exhibition, whence agricultural and industrial exhibits were carefully kept out. Lord Curzon tried to show that India's speciality lies not in "cheap cottons, wax-cloth, vulgar lacquer and trinkets, brass gods and bowls made to order in Birmingham, but in incomparable Indian broadcloth, rare gold and silver ware, our metal work, and enamels, jewellery, carving in wood, ivory and stone, our best pottery and tiles, our carpets of many patterns, muslins and silks and embroideries." Lord Curzon was right when he said: "Indian wit will never be revived by foreign ideals, but only by fidelity to its own." For want of patrons the beautiful arts are dying out. If an appeal to the rich go in vain, then India will be victimised before the altar of machinery where imitative works of art only will be produced. Will the all-India Industrial Exhibition show what India can still conceive, create and multiply, taking pride in our own? The Delhi Art Exhibition was said to be not "a bazar, but an exhibition whose object is to encourage and revive good work, not to satisfy the requirements of the thinly-lined purse." What the Calcutta Exhibition for?

THE COMING CONGRESS.

As a young man just after he has attained majority is full of life and vigour, so the Indian National Congress after living the life for full twenty-one years, shows signs of strength and activity. This is the twenty-second session of this Congress. Calcutta will have her fourth Congress this year. She has a liking for Bombay men, especially Parsis. In the first Congress Session in Calcutta 1886, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji presided; in the Second Calcutta Congress in 1890 or the 6th of the Congress Sir P. M. Mehta, K.C.I.E. had that honour; in 1896 or the 12th sitting of the Congress, the late Mr. R. M. Sayani; and in 1902, the 18th Congress, Mr. D. E. Wacha presided. The Chairman of the Reception Committee is the Hon'ble Dr. Rashbehari Ghosh, C. I. E. His predeceutors were Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Mr. Monomohan Ghosh, Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Roy of Nattore. Now that some of the founders, of this National Congress are hushed in death, it will be a fitting tribute to their memory, if we mention the origin of this wonderful achievement under British rule in India. The late Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, the first President, in his introduction to "Indian Politics" (Published in Madras, 1898) gives an account of it. It is now known to all that Mr. Bonnerjee had a large share in the building of the Indian National Congress. He writes:—

It will probably be news to many that the Indian National Congress, as it was originally stated and as it has since been carried on, is in reality the work the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava when that nobleman was Governor-General of India. Mr. A. O. Hume, C. B., had in 1884, conceived the idea that it would be of great advantage to the country if leading Indian politicians could be brought together once a year to discuss social matters and be upon friendly footing with one another. He did not desire that politics should form part of their discussion, for there were recognised public bodies in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and other parts of India, and he thought that these bodies might suffer in importance if when Indian politicians from different parts of the country came together, they discussed politics. His idea further was that the Governor of the Province where the politicians met should be asked to preside over them and that thereby greater cordiality should be established between the official classes and the non-official Indian politicians. Full of these ideas he saw the noble Marquis when he went to Simla early in 1885 after having in the December previous assumed the Viceroyalty of India. Lord Dufferin took great interest in the matter and after considering over it for some time he sent for Mr. Hume and told him that, in his opinion, Mr. Hume's project would not be of much use. He said there was no body of persons in this country who performed the function which Her Majesty's Opposition did in England. The newspapers, even if they really represented the views of the people, were not reliable and as the English were necessarily ignorant of what was thought of them and their policy in native circles, it would be very desirable in the interests as well of the rulers as of the ruled that Indian politicians should meet yearly and point out to the Government in what respects the administration was defective and how it could be improved; and he added that an assembly such as he proposed should not be presided over by the local Governor for in his presence the people might not like to speak out their minds. Mr. Hume was convinced by Lord Dufferin's arguments and when he placed the two schemes, his own and Lord Dufferin's, before leading politicians in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and other parts of the country, the latter unanimously accepted Lord Dufferin's scheme and proceeded to give effect to it. Lord Dufferin had made it a condition with Mr. Hume that his name in connection with the scheme of the Congress should not be divulged so long as he remained in the country, and this condition was faithfully maintained and none but the men consulted by Mr. Hume knew anything about the matter.

It is curious that Lord Dufferin who is credited with the idea of this great movement, at a St. Andrew's Banquet, denounced it and its founder, Mr. Allan Hume, in language the calumny of which still

lives to arouse astonishment and indignation and despair.

On the last day of the year 1886 Lord Dufferin invited the Congress delegates to Government House not, as he was careful to explain, in their capacities of representatives, but as gentlemen of more or less distinction and culture whom he was pleased to be able thus to honour. Lord Connemara, Governor of Madras, invited the delegates of 1887 to a garden party. The invitation was addressed to the "Distinguished Visitors" at Madras. It is said that no session of the Congress broke up with kinder feelings between the rulers and ruled than did the session whose good will Lord Connemara purchased at the expenditure of a little social courtesy. Lord Curzon invited Sir Henry Cotton, but would not grant him an interview as President of the Congress. Mr. John Morley as Secretary of State for India recognizes the Congress. Now, the spirit of self-help that pervades the length and breadth of the country is going to change the programme of the coming Congress. Hitherto the Congress has busied itself in praying Government to remove our grievances and disabilities and for granting us a greater share in the administration. The people now find that they must do something more than beg. They probably now understand that the country has arrived at a stage when Government cannot confer offices simply as favours. They may be sure that Government will not refuse help to the really deserving. There is no denying the fact that India accepts England's rule gladly and gratefully because it is the best.

We hope the coming Congress, while voicing the mind of an awakened people, will not forget the debt of gratitude the Young and New India owes to the race of the statesmen who have founded the British Indian Empire on the contentment of a people. We trust the Government of the day will also bear in mind the noble heritage left to it by its predecessors.

THIS is Christmas season. The general Christmas holidays begin from to-morrow Sunday and continue till Tuesday the 1st January or for ten days. Christmas is a season of festivity and rejoicing in Christendom. The rigour of cold December enhances the merriment. But this year, the season is exceptionally mild, in comparison, in Calcutta. They say "that a hot Christmas makes a fat Churchyard." This is proved here by the mortuary returns.

Formerly, a Christmas King or Prince, otherwise known as the Lord of Misrule would be elected to lead the revels about Christmas-time. In Merton College, this election would be made by the Fellows about St. Edmond's Day, in November. In 1537, in a letter, the Curate of St. Margaret's, Lothbury says, that the people made no more of God than if he had been 'a Christmas King.' This misrule, we believe, survives in unlicensed gambling in Yule-tide as we find in India. Christmas-tree is a famous feature of Christmas celebration in Germany. It was transplanted into England by the late Queen Victoria.

It is also a season of presents. Every European in India expects or receives from a native of this country in any way subordinate to him, some present—a doli, however simple it may be.

Christmas-box was originally a box, usually of earthen ware, in which contributions of money were collected at Christmas, by apprentices, etc., the box being broken when full and the contents shared. It is also a present or gratuity. In great Britain it is usually confined to gratuities given to those who are supposed to have a vague claim upon the donor for services rendered to him as one of the general

public by whom they are employed and paid, or as a customer of their legal employer. The theory is that as they have done office for this person for which he has not directly paid them, some direct acknowledgment is becoming at Christmas.

Some such idea must be the basis of the feeling of Europeans towards Indians in this country. And even the Native Princes—themselves if not the Durbars—humour that feeling.

Grafton chronicles that "King Henry...did in the honour of Christes birth on Christmas day refreshe all pore people with victuall." In this city, "Capital" has, for some years, opened a Christmas Toy Fund, which, this year, is a record with Rs. 3,445-2-3.

THE Industrial Exhibition was opened, yesterday, by the Viceroy. Mr. J. Chaudhuri, Secretary to the Exhibition Committee, read a short report. Maharaja Sir Rameswar Singh Bahadur of Durbhanga, the President of the Committee, in a short speech, asked the Viceroy to open the Exhibition. Lord Minto, in doing so, said:

Maharaja, Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I understand this is the second time the Indian Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition has been held in Calcutta. The first occasion was, I believe, in 1901, the year in which the Exhibition was inaugurated, and I am very glad to be here today to offer it a hearty welcome on its return to the capital of India.

I must thank you, Maharaja, for the cordial reception you have extended to me on behalf of your Committee, and I would venture at the same time to congratulate you on the wise and thoughtful words of your Address.

You have reminded me of my reference to Swadeshi in my speech in Council last March, and I hope that my presence here may be some indication of the fulfilment of the promise of support I then held out to those who are earnestly endeavouring to develop home industries in an open market for the employment and for the supply of the people of India.

I see around me the results of their labours, and I am gladly here today to help them. I understand, Maharaja, it was wisely decided inauguration of the Exhibition that it was to be dissociated from politics, and I trust we shall all benefit this afternoon by breathing the breathing of a noncontroversial atmosphere. I shall any rate rejoice if my presence should contribute to confirm the dissociation of honest Swadeshi from political aspirations. There is no occasion, there is no justification for confusing the two. And this Exhibition will do a great work for India if, whilst recognising the right that every man has to his own political opinions and the right to make them known, it enables us all to meet on a Swadeshi platform where irrespective of our political views, we can work hand in hand for the good of the people. We shall all do well to recognise that though industrial necessities and manufacturing interests must go far to shape the policy of India, that is a very different thing from attempting to direct and control those industries and interest for political purpose.

I am looking forward, Maharaja, to the opportunity you have afforded me of seeing for myself the many articles of interest the energy of your Committee has collected here. I cannot tell you how heartily I sympathise not only in their endeavours to develop industrial resources, but in all they are doing to preserve those characteristic native arts for which India has for centuries been celebrated, and skilled handicrafts which the modern world can never hope to rival. Whilst in the larger sense of production for purposes of every day utility and consumption they have recognised the necessity for the adoption of machinery which modern science has made available to the manufacturer. In these days of competition and of ever advancing mechanical discovery India cannot lag behind. We cannot expect the Indian public for sentimental reasons to buy what is inferior and behind the times. Sad as it is to see ancient industries give way to novel methods, we should be prepared to welcome all that is good in the inevitable, to adapt our populations to the demands of modern requirements, and to educate them in the knowledge of modern inventions. This Exhibition has already done much to indicate to the Indian manufacturer the paths that lead to success. I hope, too, that the Department of Commerce and Industry, over which the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett has so ably presided, has shed an influence over Indian commercial life which may have great results in the future.

I congratulate the Committee of the Exhibition on the support they have received from Indian Princes and Chiefs. They have I can assure them, the warm sympathy of the Government of India, and I know that they have no truer friend in Bengal than Sir Andrew Fraser.

Maharaja I have to thank you for your kind references to Her Excellency and myself, I shall watch the efforts of your Exhibition with the deepest interest, and I have now great pleasure in declaring it open.

The proceedings commenced with the following song—called Mangalacharan or benediction song :

To Trade and Industry
Let all thy children be
Devoted, day and night,
Break thou their deadly sleep
That they their hearts may steep
In perseverance aright,
Let every Indian's hand
In work engaged be !
It pains our hearts to see
The sorrows of our land.

O mother, on thy breast
Take thy sons opprest
With hunger to them give
Food that they may live
Twenty million souls now lie,
Godless, at thy feet and cry

As reported in "Bande Mataram" this morning, "It failed to produce any effect on those for whose benefit it was performed for they did not understand a word of it. And the blank expression on their faces was pathetic indeed. And the song was prematurely brought to a close by order !"

The programme of the day closed with another exhibition—of electricity, fire and, let us not hope, smoke.

Not being of the chosen people of the Exhibition Committee, or the chief directors, we cannot give any report of our own, except the reply of the Viceroy whose Private Secretary was good enough to send it to us last night.

In the Committee's Report, as published in the "Bengalee" to-day, we read :

"Every visitor to the Exhibition is full of admiration for the gateways and towers, and regrets that such works of art will have to be taken to pieces after the Exhibition is over."

They are veritable Christmas-boxes that receive all, and nothing can be got out till they be broken in pieces.

IN March last Mr. S. M. Mitra's correspondence with Mr. Chamberlain with reference to the position of India in the Tariff Reform, drew a considerable attention in this country. The Indian Congress, so far has not discussed the subject. Mr. Mitra is the first Indian gentleman to discuss the matter with Mr. Chamberlain. The correspondence drew the attention of the *Times* at the time. Mr. Mitra has since received letters from various parts of the Empire. The Cobden Club gave prominence to Mr. Mitra's arguments in their journal in July last, with the result that Mr. Mitra has been able to draw the attention of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia. Mr. Edward Pulsford, author of "Commerce and the Empire" (1903) and a prominent statesman of New South Wales has written a long letter to Mr. Mitra from which we extract the following :

"I feel impelled to write to you to say how gratified I have been to read your admirable letter addressed in March last to Mr. Chamberlain with regard to the position of India in the fiscal controversy. No greater service can be rendered to the Empire than to thoroughly expose the pie-eminent folly of any scheme that penalises India. I trust that you will follow up the matter, so that when the Colonial Conference meets in April, I think, the true position of India may be recognised and may influence the whole debate that may be expected."

We understand that Mr. Mitra has written an open letter to Mr. Morley re the position of the Indian Princes.

IN the "Indian Planters Gazette and Sporting News" of the 15th December, the first Point for Planters is :

"H. H. The Lieutenant-Governor of Ebasam leaves Chittagong to-day for Dacca."

The fifth Point is :

"The Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam will be a guest of Sir Andrew Fraser at Belvedere during his visit to Calcutta at Christmas."

We believe, in both the Points, the Lieutenant-Governor is Mr. Hare. "Ebasam" may thus be a contraction of Eastern Bengal and Assam. In the Abbreviated Addresses of Government Officials in State Telegrams, the

Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam is—Lt. Govr., E. B. A. If Eastern Bengal and Assam, by abbreviation, be reduced to Ebasam, why not to still shorter and more euphonious—Eba ? Neither this nor the other can have the approval of the Dacca journal "Eastern Bengal and Assam Era With which is Incorporated The Bengal Times," whose abbreviation is—"E. B. and A. E." Following the principle therein, the new province may also be known as Ebanda. If Lord Curzon were still the Viceroy, he might have chosen a short designation such as A.D. or the Amalgamated Districts as a collection of districts from Bengal.

English travellers have abbreviated the name of the country to the north of the Victoria Nyanza, from Buganda into Uganda. The inhabitants of Buganda are known as Baganda or Waganda, while a single native of Buganda is known as a Muganda. If our new Province be called Ebanda, how will the people generally and individually be known ? Here is a nut to crack in the season when gathering of nuts is a game.

THE tempest in the tea-pot of the C. T. C. is over. The members of the Club, acting in the spirit of Kossuth's inspiration—"Expediency is the Science of Exigencies" have agreed to share the Captain's pudding (which has all the jam at one end) with the mate, someday. The "Statesman's" sporting correspondent, speaking of the old grand stand, refers to it as the "dismantled hulk" which every body has deserted "like rats leaving a sinking ship"...and again of the same "hulk, with its bare poles against the skylight, having been left in the safe keeping of a lascar crew." The allusion is to the second enclosure having been left severely alone to Swadeshi "punters," with stalls for 60 "bookies" of the standing of Friend & Co., etc., and the Magdalenes, for whom there can be no admission to—the Paddock—or, is it the sheep-pen of the newest dispensation ?

The C. T. C. are thus left in the full enjoyment of the best half of the Pie—for the present, at least—but as the principle for which a Christian Press contended has been recognised by the Club, and the Public have accepted the excuses made for them, in good faith, as a satisfactory explanation of their conduct, let us hope "the memory of this impertinence" having "once departed, may return no more." Society, says Taleyrand, "is divisible into two classes: the shearers and the shorn." So, the sheep must for ever be separated from the goats. The partition of Bengal, it is admitted, was a blunder, but it is a settled fact. And the partition of the lawn in front of the new and glorious grand stand, must also be accepted as a duplication and standing illustration, we suppose, of the original partition of this ill-fated province; an object lesson in short, in the art of bideshi goats "taking it lying down" from a species of apocalyptic sheep under the pax Britannica ! *Pax vobiscum.*

HIS Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur is being boycotted by the Brahmans of his territory. He comes of Shivaji's stock and is the successor of His Highness Maharaja Rajaram who died in Florence, and has left a literary legacy in the shape of a diary. We extract a few specimens of personal impressions :

"1870 A.D. 6th July. I was quite astonished to see the simple and unpretending ways of talking of the ministers, especially of Mr. Gladstone. They are very gentle in conversation. They have not got the pride of the Indian officers, though they are the leading men of the English Empire. I liked them very much.

7th July. Called on Mr. Bruce, the Home Secretary. I found him very gentle, civil and polite, though he is one of the greatest men at present.

8th July. He (H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge) appears to be a perfect gentleman. He is very polite and free in his conversation. He was so civil and gentle that he begged my pardon for having come later than the appointed time.

9th July. I was very much pleased with the dress of the Highland regiments.

10th. Went to call on the Prince and Princess of Teck. They gave me a very warm reception. Both of them are very courteous and polite. I saw their children also. They are nice well trained young fellows. (Was the Princess of Wales among them? Editor, R. & R.)

20th. Lord and Lady Elcho were very kind to me, and took a great deal of trouble in showing me everything that could interest me. The more I see the English, the more I know their politeness and hospitably shown to strangers. I will never forget the warm reception Lord and Lady Elcho gave me to-day."

MINTO Fancy Fete, Football Tournament, Draws of the Calcutta Division.

| | 1st Round | 2nd Round | 3rd Final. |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. Hornets. | Bye | " | " |
| 2. R.G.A. Hooghly } Defences, Fort William | Bye | " | " |
| 3. Northumberland } Fusiliers. | Bye | " | " |
| 4. Howrah. | Bye | " | " |
| 5. E. B. S. R. Vol- unteers. | Bye | " | " |
| 6. Highland Light } Infantry. | Bye | " | " |
| 7. Customs. | Bye | " | " |
| 8. Mohan Bagan | | " | " |
| 9. Calcutta. | | " | " |
| First Round to be played by 7th January. | | | |
| Second " " " 15th | | | |
| Third " " " 21st | | | |

SIR Chander Madhub Ghose retires as a Judge of the High Court, Bengal, from the 2nd January 1907. Yesterday, when he sat for the last time, the Pleaders and Attorneys presented him with their respective, addresses of fare well. The Advocate General too on behalf of the bar expressed regret at the retirement.

THE 5th annual meeting of the Bangadesiya Kayastha Sabha will be held at 18-4, Akur Dutt's Lane, Bowbazar, on Tuesday, the 25th instant, at 12 noon when the Hon'ble Justice Sir Chander Madhub Ghose, Kt. will preside. All Kayasthas who are not members of the society and who have not already been furnished with invitation cards are requested to send in their address to Babu Govind Lal Dutt, one of the Secretaries of the Sabha, at the above address.

To avoid causing any inconvenience to visitors to Barrackpore Park, we are asked to give notice that the road through the private gardens of Barrackpore House will be closed on the days on which the Viceroy is in residence there. There is of course no intention whatever of closing the Park.

THE CALCUTTA POLICE COURT.

(Before an Honorary Presidency Magistrate.)

December 18.

Sashi Dasi—Complainant.

1. Nogen Ghose } Accused.
2. Priya }

Charge—Kidnapping.

Babu Tarak Nath Sadhu for the complainant.

Babu Promotho Nath Mookerjee for the accused.

The complaint is that the girl, while going to the market, was, without the consent of the mother, taken by the two accused and detained for several weeks by the 1st accused in the Atur Asraon, whence she was recovered by the Police. The defence is the girl was married by the putative father to the 1st accused. That father denies all knowledge of the marriage, and there is sufficient evidence that the mother was no consenting party. She admits negotiations with her by the two accused, the second being a match-maker, for marriage and says she would not consent to the marriage because the 1st accused was a Christian. Beyond that statement of hers, there is no evidence that he is a Christian and not a Hindu. Against the evidence of the father, a witness for the prosecution, there is the evidence of and

other witness, examined by the defence, that the father took over the girl to him, that she remained with him for 2 or 3 days, and that she was taken to Chetla, where a kind of marriage ceremony was gone through. The whole party consisting of himself, the 1st accused, the girl, her father, and 2 or 3 others, returned the same night to his house in Calcutta, and next morning the girl was taken away by the 1st accused. I see no reason why the father is to be believed and not this witness. According to this witness, the father sought his help because the mother was opposed to the marriage and he the father wanted to marry the girl to her advantage, as he had married another daughter of his, her sister. The marriage ceremony, as deposed to by the defence witnesses, does not appear to me to be of the ordinary kind observed by Hindus. Nor has any evidence been given as to the established ceremony in unions of the present kind.

Supposing the marriage is valid, the question remains whether the girl was taken away by the accused without the consent of her legal guardian. Here again the question arises, as raised by the defence, whether the father or the mother is her legal guardian.

I believe the courts now recognize the natural right of the mother to the custody of an illegitimate child. Mayne, in his Treatise on Hindu Law and Usage (5th Ed. 1892 p. 224) says:

"The mother is the natural guardian of an illegitimate child. But where she has allowed the child to be separated from her and brought up by the father, or by persons appointed by him, the Court will not allow her to enforce her rights. Especially if the result would be disadvantageous to the child, by depriving it of the advantages of a higher mode of life and education. Her own continued immorality would of itself be a sufficient reason against handing over to her a child which was otherwise properly provided for."

In his Law Relating to Minors (1897, p. 59), Trevelyan writes:

"A Hindu father has not, as against the mother, any right to the guardianship of his illegitimate offspring. The mother would ordinarily be entitled to the custody of her illegitimate offspring."

It is not for this court to say that the father was the proper person against the mother of the girl to give her away.

In this view of the right of the mother to the guardianship of the girl, neither the father nor the accused were justified in removing the girl without her mother's consent. The mother might have known that her daughter was to be married, but there is no doubt that she did not consent to her removal for that purpose.

It is no defence to the present charge that the girl of 10 was taken or detained against the will of the mother for the benefit of the girl.

The defence appeals to the Exception in sec. 361, I. P. C. It is contended that that Exception is a complete answer to the charge as also to the claim of the mother to the girl's guardianship. The Exception is worded, thus:

"This section does not extend to the act of any person who in good faith believes himself to be the father of an illegitimate child, or who in good faith believes himself to be entitled to the lawful custody of such child, unless such act is committed for an immoral or unlawful purpose."

This Exception may be the safety of the father but not of the accused. Nor does it transfer the guardianship of the girl from the mother to the father.

The girl denies marriage as also the taking her away by the father. If the accused took the girl out of the keeping of the mother without her consent and the father thereafter married her to one of the accused, the two accused cannot entirely escape conviction. The mother being opposed to the marriage, it is probable, if the father married the girl, that he did so after the prohibited taking of the girl by the accused. The accused might have the support of the father in their act, but they made themselves by their act amenable to law. They had been to the mother for her consent which she refused, and there is no proof of her subsequent consent, direct or indirect. The father too, in this court, has gone against them.

I find the two accused guilty of the charge.

There are, however, elements in the case which do not call for adequate punishment. The marriage proper is admitted. The support of the father may be reasonably

presumed. The refusal of the mother's consent is not well grounded. She had no objection to the marriage if the 1st accused were not a Christian and she does not appear to have made any enquiry. The accused may claim the benefit of doubt. But, in the long course of this trial, they have not been able to satisfactorily disprove the burden that was on them.

The sentence is that each of the accused undergo one day's simple imprisonment or detention till the rising of the court and each pay a fine of Rs. 25, in default two weeks' rigorous imprisonment.

J. C. DUTT.

U. H. H.

Phear Lane, which begins at Bow Bazar Road nearly opposite the merry Police Station, is the typical slum of Calcutta, many times worse than the East End of London. The first thing that meets the eye is the group of dirty ill-clad and ill-fed arches of African strain playing at the mouth of the lane, in all the shades of complexion to which the human skin is heir, under different environments. Their habitations are next door only to a set of stables for hackney quadrupeds stinking so strongly that it is impossible to pass even along the 'other' side of the road without holding one's handkerchief to his nose in front a graduate dentist's shop. It must be a matter of great personal sacrifice to the Doctor, but it is a matter of surprise how his scientific education does not make him bring the fearfully unhealthy state of the vicinity to the notice of the Municipality. There is a municipality everywhere in these days, but it has no eyes to see nor ears to hear, unless its torpid-livered menial subordinates are galvanized. Will therefore this notice put some one into action and make him see with his own eyes that the dozen shanties from Bow Bazar through Phear Lane and Sobharam Bysa's Lane to the Medical College Street, a walk of four minutes, are thoroughly flushed with the help of the fire pumps or the street hoses? Mere sprinkling of water as is done on the roads is not flushing. This done, the wretched spot inhabited by Ticca Garv-wallas will certainly change its homicidal nature into a decent human habitation. But it must be remembered that some one in authority has to see that it is actually done. It is only an hour's work to show how each shed has to be thoroughly washed, and that little work is calculated to do immense good to about 5,000 people living in the immediate vicinity packed almost like sardines. Leaving the Chaman Lane to the right—the lane which has greatly been improved to the immense credit of the Municipality in widening the road near the Eden Hospitals—one has to turn to the right and enter Sobharam Bysa's Lane to find that the road bifurcates to terminate at Medical College Street. The triangle at the bifurcation is allowed to be occupied as a Basti containing a brood of the notoriously execrable Oriya Dattvas, the "Palanquin bearers of the delicate zannas neauties. There is no drainage of any sort. Quiet nooks and corners of the sheds are awfully dirty and the slits in the bamboo partitions indicate the opening of secret drains which completely defy the large eyes of the big Inspectors who pass on bicycles under the music of the loud ring of the bell. The rapid motion of the cycle obliterates minor details, and produces a panorama nice enough for a C. C. the badge on his hat. This receptacle, this ancient store house of disease-germs is not only an eyesore, but it actually produces the diseases in the residents. The whole of the triangle is not more than a couple or two kathas and is for sale. Here is an opportunity for improvement in the interest of the local residents. To begin with the merry-men guarded Bow Bazar-end of Phear Lane, the Municipality of Calcutta has to (1) examine specially all the stables along the lane and the right-hand bifurcation of Sobharam Lane to Medical College Street, (2) to get them thoroughly flushed periodically and improved or removed to a wider open ground specially selected for such purposes as is done in Bombay. Deaths among buffalo keepers were numerous in that city that the fact attracted the attention of the Corporation and resulted in isolating the beasts from respectable quarters and removing them to specially built sheds. There is no reason why Calcutta, with the advantage of a copious supply of unfiltered water and enough room for expansion should not do what Bombay has already achieved even under the double disadvantage of want of space and water. (3) Then remains the Basti at the bifurcation of the street mentioned. The sooner it is removed and turned into an open lung, the better, as there are plague cases in the adjoining houses. A cluster of shady trees with Nim and eucalyptus by preference will render it a blessing to the inhabitants. When there are no drains and no urinals, the examination of these sheds occupied by low class menials will certainly reveal secret receptacles of filth. Then there is a blind lane between the basti and the first solid building. A look down it will perhaps end in the discovery of a gruesome treasure trove. Such a place ought to be demolished at once for the good of the public. In Bombay at

place like this would surely be marked in one-foot-letters "U. H. H." (Unit for Human Habitations) and dealt with accordingly.

Bombay, Dec. 14. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, President elect Indian National Congress, arrived at Bombay in the mail steamer Arcadia this evening and received a demonstrative welcome from a large gathering of Parsis and members of other native communities, who assembled on the Apollo Bunder and in the streets to catch a glimpse of the Grand Old Man. The Bunder and streets were decorated for the occasion.

When the P. and O. steamer was signalled, the steam launch Nippon, lent by Mr. Shavareshan R. Dinash, put off from the Ballard Pier with the following gentlemen forming a deputation: Sir Balchandra Krishna, Hon. G. K. Parikh, Hon. C. H. Setuivad, Hon. Ebrahim Rahimoola, Messrs. Narotam Morarji Gokuldas, Jaffarhai, Rahimoola, Jehangir B. Patel, Bhaishunker Nanabhai, Dr. K. E. Dasachari, Messrs. Lalobhai Jamuldas, Kazi Kabiruddin, Messrs. Rustom K. R. Kama, N. N. Saher, D. N. Guzdar, and D. F. Wachha. People began to assemble on the Apollo Bunder, where a band provided by the merchants of Mulji Jetha cloth market, wiled away the time. The arrangements at the Bunder were in hands of a force of volunteers and a force constables gave them assistance in marshalling carriages and people. Sir P. M. Meh-ta, with other well-known Congress men, was warmly welcomed.

Soon after the mail steamer anchored, the launch Nippon, which was gay with hunting returned to the Bunder. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, already profusely garlanded, was sitting in the bow, surrounded by deputations, and as he stepped ashore was welcomed by Sir P. M. Meh-ta, and there was an outburst of cheering while the band played "See the Conquering Hero comes," followed by the "National Anthem." Mr. Naoroji shook hands with several of those present, and he was generally considered to be looking in splendid health and spirits for his four score years. More garlands and bouquets were presented, and a move was made to the string of motor cars which were in readiness for the procession. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji took his place in the first car, a fine all English 40 h. p. London, kindly lent by Messrs. Marshall and Price. The car was almost covered in Cashmir shawl drapings, and floral decorations, and was followed by a second also lent by the English firm, for the leavers deputation and about half dozen others.

Mr. Naoroji must have been gratified by the warmth of his welcome. Through the streets, where numerous stoppages for special greetings were made, his journey occupied till long after dark. A cheer went up as the procession left the Apollo Bunder, and the cars passed under the suspended motto "India's Cordial Greetings to her most beloved and distinguished son." Several similar ones followed, and at many places en route large crowds awaited the passage of the procession, particularly in the Native Town, where some of the markets had been specially closed for the occasion. At many Parsi schools on the selected route the halt was made, while girls sang songs of welcome, and by Parsi temples priests offered prayers and Mr. Naoroji was garlanded before proceeding. Several addresses were presented at different points of the procession, mostly enclosed in valuable caskets and at many other places halts were made for presentation of flowers. At one place real pearls were showered on the veteran leader's head and at another flowers of gold and silver. After darkness had fallen the procession was joined by boys carrying brilliantly lighted chandeliers of the kind that are seen at wedding processions. There was no speech-making.

MINTO FANCY FETE.

The idea of having some entertainment at Calcutta during the cold season of 1907 was first suggested at a meeting of the Committee of the Victoria Dufferin Hospital at Calcutta.

Money for completing some very necessary buildings in this institution being badly wanted, Her Excellency The Countess of Minto, who was present at the meeting, proposed to try and raise the sum wanted by means of some public entertainment, and gradually from this has developed the present undertaking, by which it is hoped many charities may benefit.

It was decided to hold a Fete on the lines of that so successfully undertaken by Lady Northcote in Bombay. Mr. Marshall Reid, C. I. E., who was Secretary to that Fete, was consulted, as his ready help and advice enabled a scheme to be formulated for the coming Fete.

With an extended scheme it was decided to include many Institutions besides the Victoria Dufferin Hospital, and now the proceeds of the Fete will be apportioned to the various Calcutta Hospitals, both European and Native, and also to the Calcutta and Indian Nursing Associations.

The allocation of the total proceeds of the Fete will remain in the hands of Her Excellency The Countess of Minto, President and the members of the Executive Committee, which is now to be formed.

The ground selected for the Fete is the triangular piece round the Ochierlony Monument, and about 13 acres is now being en-

closed. The grounds and Monument will be brilliantly illuminated at night. There will be two handsomely decorated Entrances from the Ochterlony and Mayo Roads.

For convenience of description the Ochterlony Monument can be taken as the centre of the ground, round which is a grand Promenade 100 feet Broad.

The ground is now divided by the Entrance Roads from North and South and the exit roads East and West, the four plots thus formed being allotted as follows,

North East Plot.

Near the entrance is the Lucky Bag under the supervision of Mr. E. J. Buck and Mr. C. Bayley, M. V. O., and from the large number of presents already received in response to Her Excellency's letter of invitation there seems no doubt that it will prove most successful.

The Dining Room faces the Promenade and has seating accommodation for 200. Mr. Banks Gwyther has designed and is taking charge of the construction of the building.

The catering is under the direction of Messrs. Kellner & Co., who have generously offered to cater at absolutely cost price—leaving all profits to go to the Fete Fund.

In the grove of trees on the East side of this ground is the Cafe Chantant, all arrangements for which have been made by Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Dring. The stage arrangements will be looked after by Major Fraser, 33rd Punjabis.

South East Plot.

Immediately south of the Exit road is the Flower Show and Conservatory, of which the President is the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Holmwood and the Honorary Secretary Mr. S. P. Chatterjee, who is most generously building the Conservatory and contributing all the flowers required.

Further South is a Pavilion which will be used for the Photographic Society's Exhibition of Picture lasting for 7 days—to be followed by the first Dog Show under the auspices of the New Kennel Association.

The Bazaar Stalls will flank the South Entrance Road near the Promenade. Those on the west being the Medical, Military and Viceregal Stalls, and opposite the Commerce and Trades and Civil Services.

The Lady Presidents of these various stalls on as follows are—

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Commerce and Trades | ... | Mrs. Forsyth, |
| Civil Service | ... | Lady Fraser, |
| Medical | ... | Mrs. Harris, |
| Naval and Military | ... | Lady Macdonald, |
| Viceregal Staff | ... | Hon'ble Mrs. Adam, |

and large Committees of Ladies have been formed to undertake the work of selling. The subscriptions and contributions to these stalls have been on the most generous scale, and the financial success is assured. Her Royal Highness, The Princess of Wales, has shown her great interest in the Fete by sending out a box of very handsome presents for sale.

NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE.

WARD XI.

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Assistant Secretary.

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Babu Sarada Prasanna Chattopadhyaya
and
A representative Committee.

The Committee commenced their Vikshya on the 29th October. From that day till the 14th January they collected Rs. 1,408-9-6. Of this sum Rs. 1,408 have been sent to the Treasurers Rai Pashupati Nath Bose Bahadur, and Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter, of the National Fund.

Gentlemen of the Ward are requested to send their donations to the Secretary as soon as possible.

Between the stalls and the Photographic Exhibition are the Post, Telegraph and Parcels offices. The Exhibition of Postage, Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps, which is being arranged by the Philatelic Society of India, will be situated also in this plot and the very numerous side shows will be grouped behind. A large number of amusements for children will also be arranged.

Along the east side of the South Entrance Road is the Horse Switchback, and behind, the Shannon River, Skating Rink, Rattle Dazzle and Hall of Mirrors.

All these are being generously provided by Mr. Keelman, proprietor of the Skating Rink, to whom the Honorary Secretaries are deeply indebted for all the assistance he has given.

Two shooting galleries contributed by Messrs. Lyon & Lyon and Messrs. Manton & Co., respectively, are situated on this plot and will be under the supervision of Major Feilding, D.S.O., A.D.C.

N.-W. Plot.

Near the entrance, under the auspices of the Automobile Association of Bengal, is an Exhibition for which some 60 motor cars have been entered, and further west is the large piece of ground allotted to the Football Tournament and Military Displays.

For the Football Cup presented by His Excellency the Viceroy no less than 41 entries have been received from all parts of India, including 9 local teams. The preliminary ties will be played in the Divisions, so eleven teams will be left in for the final rounds, and one match will be played daily during the Fete. This being the largest entry ever received in India and the pick of the Military teams coming to Calcutta, should prove one of the most attractive events of the Fete.

The Military Display has been arranged by Sir E. Locke-Elliott, Brigadier General Sir R. Macdonald, and a strong Committee. It will consist of Musical Rides, Artillery Driving, Bayonet Competitions, Torchlight Tattoos, &c., ending up each evening with a sham-fight and storming and capture of a strongly fortified fort.

Along each side of this road stands are being erected—that on the east being free, whilst for seats on the Western side a small charge will be made.

S.-W. Plot.

Adjoining the Western exit ground is the site allotted for the Highland gathering, under the direction of Norman Al Leod, Esq. Here Highland games and competitions in Piping and Dancing will take place. Two of the best Judges in Piping and Dancing have been secured, and this gathering will be, no doubt, most popular.

A stand is here being erected for sightseers, which will also serve for the 10 masked bands, who will perform each night under the conductorship of Captain Sandford.

The Arena for Boxing and other Displays is also on this ground. It is expected that the prizes offered for Boxing will attract a large entry.

General

In addition to the four main roads are several subsidiary ones which are now being laid out under Mr. Banks Gwyther's direction.

The lighting of the Fete grounds has been arranged for by the appointment of a Provisional Committee with Mr. Elworthy as President. The power for electric lighting is being obtained from the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation on very advantageous terms, and the detailed lighting is being provided by that Corporation, Messrs. Osler & Co., Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co., and Messrs. Balmer, Lawrie & Co. at a nominal charge.

The gaslighting of the South-Eastern Plot is being given free by the Oriental Gas Company.

Mr. H. Norton has generously promised to complete all the sanitary arrangements necessary within the grounds, free of cost.

The entire grounds is now being enclosed with a fencing of corrugated iron sheets, which are being lent for that purpose by Messrs. Johar Mull Sagarchand.

This completes the description of the grounds and the attractions which are being supplied.

With so many offers of assistance and more still coming in it is difficult to forecast with accuracy what the expenditure is likely to be, but it is hoped that the total expenditure will not greatly exceed Rs. 50,000.

On the other hand, the amount from contributions, sale of advertisements, &c. has already reached the total of Rs. 49,000.

W. R. CROOKE LAWLESS,
F. PALMER

Honorary Secretaries.

GOETHE ON HOMOEOPATHY.

Two leading intellectual stars illumined the sky of Germany at the same time. They were Goethe and Hahnemann. Goethe was senior to Hahnemann by a few years. Hahnemann could understand and appreciate the scientific innovations made by Goethe. The latter on the contrary could not feel the cultured influence of

Hahnemann or his great-grandson. In fact, Goethe has made a satirical allusion to a homeopathist.

"A Brunette

To sponge upon you, what a crow's a villain's tag !
To beg a remedy ; a frozen foot
Annoys me more, in walking as in dancing ;
And awkwardly I manage to salute.

Mephistopheles

A gentle kick permit, then, from my foot !

The Brunette

Well,—that might happen, when the two are lovers.

Mephistopheles

My kick a more important matter covers

"Similia Similibus," when one is sick.

"The foot cures foot, each lion's paw can palliate ;

Come near ! Take heed ! and, pray you, don't retaliate."

It is a pity that Goethe could not appreciate the greatness of Hahnemann's method of cure. The man who could unravel the mystery of the metamorphosis of plants, who could explain the expansion of the skull from a vertebra, was not struck with the evolution of the law of cure. Finally he was led to the truth of homeopathy, yet he had the notion of the powerful working of nature.

"Not Art and Science, say, alone ;

Patience must in the work be shown

Long is the calm brain active in creation ;

Time, only, strengthens our fine fermentation."

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IMPRESSIONS OF A WANDERER.

Then again,

"Encheiresin naturæ," this Chemistry names,
Nor knows how herself she banters and blames !"

A commentator explains,

"The phrase 'encheiresin naturæ' signifies, properly 'a treatise of nature'. Here, however, Goethe seems rather to indicate the mysterious, elusive force by which nature operates."

In a letter to Wackenroder, Professor of Chemistry at Jena, written in January 1832, Goethe says :

"Notwithstanding we willingly allow to nature her secret 'Encheiresis,' whereby she creates and sustains life, and, although no mystics, we must finally admit the existence of an inscrutable something,—yet man cannot, if his aim be earnest, restrain himself from the attempt to drive the inscrutable into such close quarters, that he is at least surprised and willing to confess himself defeated."

Encheiresin Naturæ may be compared with Vis Medicatrix Naturæ. It was said by the earlier opponents of Hahnemann that he did not believe in the healing power of Nature. The fact is that they did not understand the real meaning of the passages cited in the Organon. The reproach was mistakenly hurled on Hahnemann in 1830. In his Essay on a New Principle published in 1796 he maintained the efficacy of Nature in healing when unopposed by obstacles of badly selected remedies. In Amcke's History of Homeopathy the arguments of Hahnemann extolling the action of Nature has been described. The series of the writings of our great master will be found in his Lesser Writings. The power of Nature in healing diseases has been enunciated and maintained by him throughout his brilliant career.

Goethe's belief in Nature and his practice went side by side. His advice is shown in the following lines :

"When the Spring returns greener

Raining blossoms over all ;

When the fields with blessing greener

On the earth-born children call ;

Then the craft of elves propitious

Hastes to help where help it can.

Be he holy, be he vicious,

Pity they the luckless man,

Who round this head in airy circles hover,

Yourselves in guise of noble Elves discover !

The fierce convulsions of his heart compose ;

Remove the burning harbs of his remorses,

And cleanse his being from the suffered woes ;

Four pauses makes the Night upon her courses,

And now, delay not, let them kindly close !

First on the coolest pillow let them slumber,

Then sprinkle him with Lethe's drowsy spray !

His limbs no more shall cramps and chills encumber,

When sleep has made him strong to meet the day,

Perform, ye Elves, your fairest rite :

Restore him to the holy Light !"

A commentator says : "Goethe firmly believed in healthy and final recovery from moral as from physical hurt ; his remedial agents were Time and Nature.... He overcame his own great sorrows by temporarily withdrawing from society and surrendering himself to the influences of Nature ; and we are to suppose that Faust repeats this experience. The healing process is symbolised in this opening scene, wherein the Elves represent the delicate, mysterious agencies through which Nature operates on the human soul."

The death of several eminent men from bleeding raised the judicious protest of Hahnemann against the methods which were directed to draw out the vital fluid. The Austrian Emperor, Francis, Goethe, Raphael, Mirabeau, Lord Byron, Gessner, Cavour, and many other eminent men died of the blood-thirsty treatment. Hufeland, the friend of Hahnemann, had personal intercourse with Goethe and for him he had high regard. Goethe with all his brilliant intellectual attainments was a voracious eater. Purgatives were daily used by him. Then there was from time to time venesection which allowed profuse bleeding. With all these obnoxious methods, in 1830, he had a copious hæmorrhage from the lungs. Over and above the double bleedings, a third was made by Dr. Vogel to the amount of two pounds. This detestable treatment was supported by Hufeland, the friend of Hahnemann. It was an unfortunate affair that Hahnemann was not called to treat his great countryman — The Calcutta Journal of Medicine.



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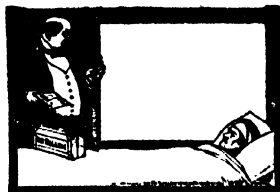
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OPINION OF THE PRESS

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith's Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th October 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and therein a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it very interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. Croft K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instructions Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengali journalist (Calcutta: Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindustan Patriot" in its palmiest days under Kristodas P. D., enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India" (Bombay) September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet" appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory; it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful specimen of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or repressing his ardor.

For much more that is well worth reading we must refer readers to the volume itself. Intrinsically it is a book worth having and reading.—The "Post" (Allahabad) Oct. 1895.

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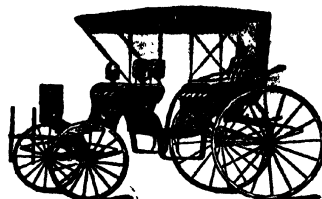
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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

VOL. XXV.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 1,251.

SRI BHARAT DHARMA MAHAMANDAL.

A most successful and influential meeting of Sri Bharat Dharma Mahamandal, All India Hindu Organisation, was held yesterday in Town Hall. The Hall presented a unique scene of Hindu assembly as is seldom gathered together. His Highness the Hon. Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga presided. On his right was His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur of Alwar, the enlightened Ruling Chief of Rajasthan. On his left were the Maharaja Bahadur of Coimbatore, Maharaja Bahadur of Hoshiwar, and the dais was full with nobles and aristocracy of Bengal, United Provinces, the Punjab, and representatives of different Branch Sabhas. The Bengalees, Marwaris and Hindustani communities were strongly represented. The Hall was full with most respectable and enthusiastic audience, and the atmosphere prevailing in the Hall was serene religious enthusiasm. Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee Bhattacharya, C. S. I., Secretary, Banga Dharma Mandal, opened the proceedings, and about a dozen learned Pandits recited Mangal-charan Shastras invoking Heavens' blessings. The General President, Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga, then delivered his presidential address which was most interesting, invigorating and worthy of the occasion. He was followed by Pandit Gopinath, griyakti Indranath Baidapadhyas, Sir Gurudas Banerji, Kt., Bharat Bhusan, Maharaja Bahadur of Coimbatore and Pandit Govindnarain Mitra.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

Maharajas, Rajas and Gentlemen,—We have met here to-day for a purpose which yields to none in importance among the numerous objects for which meetings are being held in this season not only in this town, but in various other chief cities of this Empire. Our purpose is to popularise in Bengal an institution which is already fairly well established, which has numerous branches and is very well known in several other parts of India, and which is doing good work. That institution is the "Sri Bharat-Dharma-Mahamandal." I shall presently state the objects and the constitution of that body. I shall only say by way of preface that an All-India organisation has become necessary for the preservation, the propagation and the development of ancient eastern learning and our venerated Sanatan-Dharma. If it is generally true that national life is impossible without a national religion, it is especially so in this country. Religion is the most vital fact in the East. It influences the life of the people in every detail. It is the basis of Hindu society. The Hindu religion and Hindu Society have had many ramifications in modern times but there is an essential unity underlying them all. What is wanted is an organisation to bring that unity into prominence, to promote understanding and sympathy among the several divisions, and so to help in building up a Hindu National life. Whatever may be the case in other countries, no bond is stronger than that of religion in this country and among the Hindus. Religion is here not only the most powerful of ties, but it is the chief inspiration. Nothing else can take its place. No real friend of the people can, therefore, look with unconcern upon the symptoms of a growing religious indifference among some classes. At the same time it is impossible not to rejoice at signs of a deepening religious feeling

among the people generally and a growing desire to revive national ideas, institutions and modes of life. A taste for indigenous arts and industries has been awakened; and this is only one aspect of the growing national feeling. The time seems to be favourable for rescuing the weak and co-operating with the zealous in restoring to religion its proper place in the mental and social life of the people. The Mahamandal claims to be precisely such an organisation as that which I have just described as necessary for effecting a national regeneration through religion.

2. The work of the "Mahamandal" has been divided under five departments:—

1. The "Dharma Prachar Vibhag"—i.e., The Department for the propagation of the Sanatan Dharma. It is intended to send religious preachers to all parts of the country and to publish and distribute religious tracts through its branch "Dharma-Sabhas" in the principal towns and villages of the country. Nearly 500 branch "Sabhas" have already been established in Northern India, Rajasthan, etc., and five Provincial "Mandals" have been established in Upper India and these are doing much good work in their respective spheres. We hope to see similar Offices established in Madras, Bombay and Central India.

The "Mahamandal" has three orders of religious preachers and instructors—(1) "Upadeshakas," (2) "Mahopadeshakas" and (3) "Maha-mahopadeshakas." They are about one hundred and fifty in number and are rendering most useful service to the cause.

II. The "Dharmalaya-Sanskar-Vibhag"—i.e., The Department for the control and better management of the existing Hindu religious endowments, charitable institutions, "Tirthas" (sacred places), shrines, etc. The work of this department is divided under three classes; the inspection of religious endowments, institutions, and shrines, etc., the auditing of their accounts as well as the supervision of their management. For this purpose the "Mahamandal" hopes, whenever called upon, to assist and whenever funds permit it to do so, to engage inspectors for shrines, religious and charitable institutions, employ religious preachers and publish books and pamphlets containing full details and instructions on the subject. The work of the department has been taken in hand and a commencement made by the head office of the "Mahamandal."

III. The "Vidya-Prachar-Vibhag" (Sri Sarada Mandala) i.e., The Department of Education, which aims at restoring the "Prachin-Vidya-Pithas" (ancient seats of Sanskrit Learning) and also better controlling and managing the affiliated Sanskrit schools existing in different parts of India. Under this department is being prepared a new and revised scheme of education which will combine with learning of the ancient Sanskrit all that is the best and the most useful to us of the Western knowledge. The "Sarada-Mandal," in short, will be both a teaching as well as an examining body, providing for physical, intellectual and above all the religious training. Of the eight great ancient "Vidya-Pithas" in India which the "Mahamandal" has undertaken to restore and revive, one has already been taken in hand, namely the "Vidya-pitha" of Mithila, formerly the most distinguished seat of Vedic learning.

IV. The "Pustaka-Sangraha-Anusandhan-Vibhag" i.e., the department for the collection of Sanskrit books and old manuscripts and comparative research in old and new literature, philosophy and science. Under this department is now being prepared a complete and systematic Bibliography of Sanskrit literature, philosophy and science and it is also intended to write and tied books

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incorporating the researches into ancient works with the most recent and modern developments. Our grateful thanks are due to Sri Swami Brahmanath Ashram Ji for the eminent services he has been rendering in this connection.

V. The "Shastra-Prakasha-Vibhaga" i. e., the department for the printing and publishing of eight monthly journals in different languages of India, of religious tracts, and authoritative books on Hindu Science, Philosophy, etc.

3. The "Mahamandal" includes in its organisation five classes of members.

- (a) The "Sanrakshakas" or Patrons : This order consists of the Hindu Ruling Chiefs and the "Dharm-acharyas" (Heads of different Religious Schools). Within this short period nearly all the "Dharm-acharyas" of India have joined this institution and have sent messages of kindly encouragement to us ; and about twenty Ruling Chiefs have generously come forward to support the movement. To the great "Acharyas" I beg to offer, as President of this Association, our most respectful salutations and to the Chiefs our grateful thanks.
- (b) The "Pratinidhis" : Composed of the prominent members of the aristocracy, rajas, and of the leaders of our communities. These number at present over one hundred.
- (3) The "Dharma-Vyavasthapakas" : This class consists of distinguished Sanskrit Pandits ("Adhyapakas") of all parts of the country from whom decisions on religious questions may be obtained whenever necessary.
- (d) The "Sahayaks-Sabhyas" : or special members consisting of supporters of the "Sanatana Dharma" from whom help in the work of the "Mahamandal" has been received in the past and expected in the future.
- (e) The "Sadharana Sabhyas" : or ordinary members. Every Hindu by signing a declaration promising his support to the Hindu religion and making a small contribution towards the "Mahamandal" fund is enrolled as a member of this Association. The last two classes are open to both sexes.

4. I am anxious that our purposes should not be misunderstood. The "Mahamandal" seeks to encourage National education and to build up National life through National religion. I use these phrases in no political sense, nor do they imply any political aim. The "Bharat-Dharma-Mahamandal," as its name implies, is a body whose functions are confined to religion. It seeks to reorganise religion, to strengthen the religious foundations of society and to extend and popularise religious education. We have no politics, or if we have any, they are all summed up in one word : Loyalty. With the Hindus loyalty or "Raj-Bhakti" is an element of religion. The Hindu almanacs mention the days astrologically fit for "rajadarshan" (i.e. the day on which a subject should be presented to his sovereign). The Hindus are tied to the soil of India in such a way as people of no other race or religion can be. By reason of their religion and the constitution of their society, they could not leave this country, under any circumstances whatsoever. There is no country in the world other than India that the Hindu can ever call his own. A people such as this cannot but feel as inseparably attached to their rulers as they are tied to their country. They have no interest outside India, they cannot marry or form any ties or connection in other countries and all the traditions of their religion are connected with loyalty to the Sovereign Power. "A Hindu Nihilist is a contradiction in terms." I cannot conceive that any one who calls himself a Hindu, be he a ruling Chief, or a member of the aristocracy, or a representative of the people, can be anything but loyal to the British connection. Government must be aware of these circumstances and I am therefore unable to agree with any person who may think that Government will be disposed to unduly favour the followers of other religions at our expense. We, Hindus, however, have one thing to learn from Mohammedans. With them religion is still a living principle and acts as a strong bond of union. There is discipline in their society ; and there is recognition of social leadership. It is the object of the "Mahamandal" to make Hindu society all over India a compact body united by a religion, which, however divergent in details in its various branches, is essentially one ; and it seeks to restore discipline in Hindu society by the recognition of local "Samajpatis" or social leaders.

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the programme here sketched is undoubtedly an ambitious one, but it is one which with due help from the representatives to the Hindu community and with countenance and encouragement of our English rulers is certainly not impossible of accomplishment. I earnestly hope that the co-operation we seek will not be wanting and that the institution will not be allowed to suffer for want of resources. As on previous occasions I appeal for help both in regard to funds and active workers for the cause. In the words of the ancient sloka of Sri Vyasa :—

"The power of jnana is useful in the Satyayuga, that of mantras in the Treta-yuga, that of arms in the Dwapara-yuga, and that of united and peaceful action in the Kali-yuga."

6. I hope, I shall not be understood to imply that we value religion only as an instrument for secular purposes, only as a means, for instance, of social regeneration, even the building up of a nationality. Religion is essentially an affair of the inner and not of external life. Its aims are fixed on high. And I would not say one word which would tend to lower that ideal. But it so happens in God's economy that the external is ruled and determined by the internal, that social and political life is then only fit and abiding when it grows out of the character, and that character must always be founded on religion. The educational, social, and national progress that I have foreshadowed as the likely result of a re-awakened and re-organised religion, is not the end. Religion stands on its own merits and is its own end. Its importance does not arise from the results ; but without it the results would not be.

And now I have done, I feel sure that a movement with purposes like those I have just mentioned must commend itself to you, and heartily invite your assistance in advancing it by every means at your command.

7. I cannot more fittingly conclude this address than by recalling the command given by Sri Krishna in the following slokas of the Gita :—

A man also being engaged in every work, if he put his trust in Me alone, shall, by My Divine pleasure, obtain the eternal and incorruptible mansions of My abode. With the heart place all thy works on Me ; prefer Me to all things else ; depend upon the use of thy understanding, and think constantly of Me. For by doing so, thou shalt by My Divine favour surmount every difficulty which surroundeth thee.—The Englishman, Dec. 24.

THE PRESIDENT ELECT OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE FABLE OF THE MONKEY AND THE TWO CATS.

"In a conquered country governed by the stranger liberty has no place, and to utter the name is a mockery and a profanation."—

Professor Goldwin Smith.

It is a matter of common experience that no one advocates a crooked policy or evil for evil's sake unless the person advocating it has a selfish and ulterior motive at heart. We find that the present leaders of the Indian National Congress, while professing to champion the cause of their country, do not unfrequently recommend a hypocritical course of conduct to their followers. They often betray unpardonable inconsistencies in their public utterances, and as such deserve to be thoroughly exposed. For this purpose we take the case of their chief, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, who is now elected President of the Congress for the third time, and who, regardless of all consistency, consults his own convenience in preference to the well-being of his countrymen, as will be seen from an examination of some of his views which we give below.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, in the course of his Presidential Address at the Lahore Congress of 1893, said :—"Our faith in the instinctive love of justice and fairplay of the people of the United Kingdom is not misplaced," and added : "I for one have not the shadow of a doubt that in dealing with such justice-loving, fair-minded people as the British we may rest fully assured that we shall not work in vain. It is this conviction which has supported me against all difficulties. I have never faltered in my faith in the British character and have always believed that the time will come when the sentiments of the British nation and our Gracious Sovereign proclaimed to us in our Great Charter of the Proclamation of 1858 will be realised." Contrast with this what he said in December, 1902, while delivering an address at the Newington Reform Club, Walworth :—"One of the arguments put forward in defence of the system was that the British prevented the different peoples of India from plundering each other. That was only a half truth : the whole truth was that they prevented the different peoples from plundering each other in order that they themselves might plunder all. Then they were told that the British had introduced security of property and security of life, for which Indians ought to be very grateful. Yes, they had introduced security of property, but only in order that they might carry it away with perfect security. As to the security of life it was said that the old oriental despots used to kill thousands and thousands, as

harass the people. If that was so the British Government with great ingenuity and scientific precision was killing millions by famines and plagues and starving scores of millions.....The Anglo-Indians, or the British, were like clever surgeons who, with the sharpest scalpels, cut to the very heart, and drew every drop of blood without leaving a scar. . . . Law and order were vitally important and necessary to the existence of Englishmen in India. That was the reason why they were so anxious for law and order, for without it Englishmen could not stay there one week."

Readers of "The Indian Sociologist" know that, according to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, "Patriotism means making an end of foreign rule." In a letter dated April 21, 1905, to the "Daily News" he pertinently asked an English correspondent: "Suppose by some mischance England came under French or German or some alien despotic government, in the same condition, and under the same circumstances as India is at present, will he not, as an Englishman, do his utmost to throw off the heaviest of all yokes, the yoke of the stranger? (Macaulay), even though all Englishmen were full of all the faults which the Anglo-Indians, rightly or wrongly, attach to the Indians? Will he not as an Englishman at once tell me, 'Corrupt or not corrupt, faults or no faults, a Briton shall never be a slave'? And yet he coolly justifies and assumes the right, on any of making other people slaves? Not only make them slave, but in addition to eating up their substance in the country itself, carry it away out of the country, leaving the people of the country to perish; to say nothing of the deplorable consequences of the evil, vacillating system, negation of the unholty union of hypocrisy and greedy despotism."

The quotation we have just given ought to satisfy all unbiassed men that Mr. Dadabhai's views regarding an independent form of

national government for India are not different from those put forward by us, but unfortunately he reverts to his old ideas of "the love of liberty and justice" among the English people and to the Resolution of 1893 in favour of "Simultaneous Examinations" in his message to the Benares Congress of December, 1905. If Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji thinks that the liberty and justice which the English so much love will be extended to India, he is sadly mistaken. "In a conquered country governed by the stranger," says Professor Goldwin Smith, "liberty has no place, and to utter the name is a mockery and a profanation." The same eminent historian further says: "A grain of English interest would outweigh a ton of Indian interest." In the face of these deep political truths how long does Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji expect that the Indian people will continue to be hoodwinked by him?

In the course of a speech at Leicester in November, 1905, after quoting the words of Macaulay: "Of all forms of tyranny I believe the worst is that of a nation over a nation," he strongly urged that "No patriots for the training and bleeding could do any good, the only remedy was a free country, which alone could bring prosperity to any country." Sir William Wedderburn, who was present on that occasion, told Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji in a humiliating postscript by saying that "Mr. Naoroji's speech is an independent Indian," obviously conveying the idea that Mr. Naoroji did not represent the Indian people, and in a formula to demand their self-government for India. The irony was reached when the resolution, "Free, having heard Mr. Naoroji, this meeting expresses its sympathy with the Indian people in their desire to share in the management of Indian affairs," was passed, evidently with the concurrence of Mr. Naoroji. Yet in the face of this humiliation, only a few days later in writing to the Benares Congress, he continued to express admiration of great Sir William Wedderburn and his other Anglo-Indian associates.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, who is to India a nominee of the "Moderates," although it is well known that the "Extremists" claim him as their own. In the face of the evidence adduced above, we confess that our patriots have a right to treat him as their representative. But a man who is intent on pleasing all parties must necessarily be a jelly of compromise. Readers of "The Indian Sociologist" know that in "S. B. M. N. 1" Mr. Suchi, the interpreter, "a man of a neutral position, accustomed to and accustomed to human suffering, as the 'of being' who were a failure in most of life," gave two of his customs, engaged in a heated controversy, mistaking them and said: "In truth he's wrong on you, you're both right and both wrong, as I always say." This accommodating make-up was so much afraid of losing any of his custom that he regarded his of truth, he would caprice and flatter them for his own advantage.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, as a professional politician, is in no way better than this phantasmagoria. To judge from his public utterances, his attitude towards the "moderates" and the "extremists" is tantamount to saying that they are "both right and both wrong." There can be no reconciliation between the two contending parties so long as their ideals are different, and therefore, he who favours both cannot be a true friend of either. Of one thing we feel certain from the evidence we possess that if Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji were driven into a corner he would rather sacrifice the interests of his country than displease his Anglo-Indian patrons who, without exception, are determined to maintain British supremacy in India at all costs.

At the farewell breakfast given to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji on the 20th of November under the presidency of Sir William Wedderburn, Mr. Hume said that Mr. Naoroji had set a great example of "absolute unselfishness," and the Rt. Hon. Samuel Smith remarked that he did not believe "a more single-minded man had ever existed than Mr. Naoroji," as lately reported in the "Daily News," which called him "disinterested" in a leaderette on November 13. Our readers may remember that in the February number of this journal we said that in his political career Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji was financially helped by Indians. Assuredly the words "absolute unselfishness," "single-minded" and "disinterested" are misnomers, when applied to a man who receives pecuniary help from others for carrying on a political propaganda.

Nothing can exceed the effrontery of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji when one considers the statement made by him in the course of his speech at the breakfast that he "hailed the activity which had produced differences of opinion in India." This reminds us of the well-known fable of the monkey who rejoiced at the difference of opinion between two cats that were disputing for a piece of cheese and who, acting as judge in the case submitted to him, ultimately appropriated the entire articles of food to himself and thus proved a veritable curse to both the contending parties.

Under these circumstances, we trust that Indians will not attach any importance to what Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji may say at the forthcoming meeting of the Indian National Congress at Calcutta, —The Indian Sociologist, Dec.

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Saturday, December 29, 1906.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

(The first impression.)

A GLOWING description of the Calcutta Industrial Exhibition of 1906-7 would not be out of place; an Indian Exhibition, whenever and wherever it is held, is sure to be attractive. It is the instinctive art, it is the handiwork, it is the patient toil of the Indian artisan that has been producing wonderful results. The lustre of the jewels, the mirror-like polish of the pots, the gorgeous effect of the Indian drapery, and the grand panorama of Indian bazars, are always there. It attracts the most respectable and usually unapproachable lady visitors, whose thousand and one fashions dictated by caste, custom, creed, social position, age, and conjugal status such as unmarried and married states or unfortunate widowhood, have such a variety that they add a charm to the whole, making it a paradise of human trees, plants and shrubs. Such is also the feature of the present Exhibition. But the attraction is heightened by the pretty arches, arcades, towers, clusters, and single sentinels in the electric-light uniform. The highly admired part of the Exhibition therefore is the electric light. But without the foliated and fluted domes of the towers and minarets, these pretty harbingers of a happy time in the exhibition grounds would have failed, and therefore the centre of attraction is the architectural part of the buildings. Even a crow knows how to build its nest, but that industrious Mongoloid race, the wonder of the world, the absent minded, self absorbed morphia-metamorphosed Chinaman is a born architect whom it is difficult to surpass in industry or ingenuity. He therefore is the bulwark of the whole structure. To John Chinaman India's best thanks are due. As an artisan, a workman, he represents the body. The head that conceived the general arrangement and distribution of the buildings, towers, arches and arcades, is its main stay. It has produced an effect certainly superior to the general appearance and distribution of the International Exhibition of 1883-4, in which the present writer took prominent part. Those long sheds without the pretty isolated hexagonal, pentagonal, or quadrangular towers have been effectually put into shade by the architect in charge of this Exhibition. One cannot resist the temptation, in spite of the spirit of the times, of expressing his gratitude to the education imparted to us in the Engineering colleges of the Empire. It is therefore the Empire that has been the foundation stone of the most beautiful and attractive Exhibition ground and exhibition buildings in Calcutta, and it is the electric-light-flag of the British Empire floating over the towers that invites visitors who are the main support of the Exhibition. Under these circumstances let us first express our gratitude to the civilizing Government that rules over us, to the cosmopolitan spirit of the Cobden Club that governs the policy of the British Rule in India and imports living freight of the most useful type in the shape of the ingenious, industrious Chinaman, and scientifically trained electric engineers. It is the cosmopolitan spirit of the free traders that has enabled Indians to produce a little paradise of human plants and shrubs.

The first general impression is assuredly favourable. The Exhibition of 1906-7 is worth

a visit. People who have come with families from Cape Comorin in the South, Amritsar in the North, and Bombay in the West have all been admiring it. They have been overheard in the midst of the din raised by loud exhibitors soliciting visits to their stalls just as they do in the Delhi Bazar or the Indian fairs, we say, they have been overheard saying that the amount they spent in travelling over thousands of miles and the trouble they have taken to sustain the strain of a long journey with caste restrictions on food and water, have been amply repaid. Why, because, as one intelligent boy of twelve or thirteen expressed, "I have seen the whole world in one spot." He is right. It is not only the Indian Empire but the whole world as we shall soon realize.

The prominent phase of the exhibition is the conspicuous part assumed by the soap manufacturers of India. Soap is not a very complicated chemical compound, nor is its manufacture a very difficult process. But that so simple a thing should have taken nearly two centuries to acquire a machine-made garb, bespeaks the snail-like progress of the crudest manufactures in the depressing and dull atmosphere of India. When a full grown man walks, we do not admire him for it, but when a child tries its first erect independent step and stumbles, we praise its juvenile courage and discuss its ingenuity in all its possible good points. Let us all therefore join hands in encouraging this first step in genuine Swadeshi manufacture. There are half a dozen exhibitors we have taken up Pear's line of action in advertising their soaps. People are so forgetful that they do not remember the fanciful names of the simple stuff soap, and therefore the more the dunning the better for trade. That is a lesson not Indian. It is Western in its origin, but this exotic seems to have taken root in New India. G. O. M. Dadabhai in soap, and the Honourable Mr. Gokhale's nicely printed portrait with Mrs. Langtry or Madame Adelina Patti-like, 'beauty's testimonials' are the order of the day. Pears paid a fabulous sum for an oil painting portraying soap bubbles to serve as a copy-right-trade-mark and made a fortune on the advertisements. We shall do the same. We shall follow England. This is our A.B.C. in trade-politics.

Let us leave soaps and washings and turn to the jewellery stalls. Beautifully set up a la Anglaise, the diamonds, rubies, sapphires, cats-eyes, pearls, and other gems are shown to the best advantage, and great credit is due to the Exhibition Committee in inducing the Rothschilds of India to show their immense wealth to the best advantage. The gems, the diamonds by preference, are Swadeshi. They came from Golconda, Wynaad and other Indian mines until very nearly ousted by the specious American Diamond Palaces set up in our midst with an artificial glare too strong to bear. The diamonds are beautiful, but the lustre is heightened by the cutting and polishing processes done in Europe. Thanks to Europe and America for teaching us how to admire scientific faceting in conformity with the natural laws of the reflection of light. The collections exhibited are the richest ever shown here, and every admirer of the beautiful should take his beloved to see them, with cash according to means. It must be remembered that such a sight is very rare, and

that it is the direct influence of the patriots of Calcutta that has made possible such a splendid show. Even the Delhi Darbar Exhibition has been compelled to yield its Imperial palm to the Calcutta Exhibition of 1906 in this matter.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION IN BENGAL, OLD AND NEW, 1905.

NOWHERE is the British Raj so prominent and hourly felt as in the baton of the Police. Wielding a large and almost irresponsible power, it is chiefly drawn from the illiterate mass of the people. In Old Bengal, the rank and file are notorious for their want of education. The improvement in the efficiency of the department depends on education and emoluments that it can offer to its men. The Police Commission's recommendations will take time to see the improvements so urgently called for.

When the two Bengals are taken into consideration, the statistics of Western Bengal predominate over those of Eastern Bengal. But one must remember that though both the provinces are divided into six divisions, old Bengal is larger in area and more populous than the new. So the figures of crimes, expenditure and other items must be necessarily larger. In the Report of Sir Andrew Fraser's Province there is given a table of percentages of different classes of crimes, classed under five divisions, known as police tests, of all the provinces in India. Here Assam is excluded from Bengal.

The percentage of cases investigated by the police as compared to cases reported to have been committed, whether taken up by the Magistracy or police, is the highest in the Bombay Presidency and lowest in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. The crimes of any of the different provinces cannot properly be determined by this percentage. The figures of Bombay are 92 and 85 of cases under classes I to V and I to VI., of the United Provinces 42 and 50 and of Bengal 67 and 76. In the percentage of police cases ending in conviction as compared to cases decided Bombay goes to the bottom of the list with 71 and 72, while the United Provinces record 80 and 87, the highest on record. It is difficult to make any generalisation from this meagre fact. May it not be that the people of the Upper Provinces being very illiterate, the police cases are better got up than elsewhere? In the third heading of the comparative table the percentage of persons convicted in police cases as compared to persons sent up for trial, Madras heads the list under the second group of offences, 84 per cent. and under the first group of offences it stands lowest, 48 per cent. We do not know how to congratulate the police of the Southern Presidency on this fall of percentage of convicted persons.

The police being not popular with the public, the latter observe with interest the decrease of 244 false cases in Western Bengal and a slight increase of 6 cases only in Eastern Bengal. The highest percentage of false cases was returned by Sylhet 7·8. In the Lushai Hills, out of 37 cases reported, 11 or 31 per cent. were returned as false. The Inspector General remarks that the increase calls for no

special comment. The Western Bengal Report gives a more detailed account of these false cases. Of the six divisions, Palna has the highest percentage 4·0, then comes Bhagalpur. The officiating Inspector General of West Bengal says:—

My more mature opinion is that the cause operates more widely than do idiosyncracies of classification on the part of Magistrates. It is satisfactory to note, however, that there seems to be a steady tendency for the percentage of false cases in Bihar districts to decrease. In Patna division the percentage has fallen in three years from 5·1 per cent. to 4·0 per cent. and in the Bhagalpur division from 3·2 per cent. to 2·4 per cent.

In the New Province,

Bakerganj maintains its reputation as the most turbulent of districts, and this notwithstanding that the preventive sections were far more freely applied there than in any other district.

In connection with the recent disturbances in Bakerganj, the Commissioner of the Dacca Division remarks:

This district distinguished itself for the lawlessness which accompanied the agitation against the partition of Bengal, and in furtherance of the Swadeshi movement on boycotting lines.

The so-called lawlessness in connection with the partition of Bengal ended in the conviction of persons hauled up. And it is not many months that the cases were decided in courts in favour of the people. It is also well known how the Government fared in those trials. The district of Bakerganj may continue turbulent, but is it true that the partition is the cause? There is no denying the fact that in aid of the Swadeshi and boycott movements, no other district in Bengal gave such proofs of self-sacrifice as Bakerganj. It is due to it that the boycott has been carried to any success. If the Inspector-General be so anxious for the accuracy of details and reports he should have been as careful in noting the cases in which the Government officials especially the police had come in for unfavourable remarks of the highest Court in the country.

The dense ignorance of the masses is easily found in the following cases. People are murdered as witches. Not long ago in the metropolis itself a certain person, clad in the garb of Sannyasee, burnt to death a poor woman. In this case the accused told his awe-struck disciples, that he was driving away the ghost from the woman, who was wrapped up in straw dipped in kerosine oil, and burnt. The woman was burnt to death. We further read the following cases in Western Bengal. In Ranchi a woman was suspected of being a witch. She complained to her sons who assaulted her traducer so severely that he died from the effects of the injuries. In Bhagalpur also a woman suspected to be a witch was beaten to death.

The reasons given for murders are the same in the two Provinces. The Offg. Inspector-General of Western Bengal remarks:

The majority of murder cases were due to intrigue with women, to domestic differences and land disputes, and as usual there were a few cases of Lynch law, the victims being men who had by oppressive conduct or licentious habits incurred the resentment of their fellow villagers.

The total number of true cases fell from 280 in 1904 to 248 in 1905 in Western Bengal. In Eastern Bengal it rose from 176 in 1904 and to 201 in 1905. Of all the districts in old Bengal, Manbhum stood first with 18 cases, followed by Ranchi (16), 24-Perganas (15). In Eastern Bengal, Bakerganj took the lead with 35 true murder cases and was followed by Mymensingh with 27, Dacca 17,

The District Magistrate is of opinion that the hanging of a number of men in the previous year was followed by a marked and satisfactory decrease of 12 murders in Jessore district. But such a lesson had no beneficial effect on Bakerganj, as out of 23 cases sent up for trial, 17 ended in conviction.

We seldom hear of murder of infants by their mothers except in cases of infants of shame. In Western Bengal Police Report we find :—

Eight Districts report 22 cases of murder of children by their mothers, the districts concerned being Baran with 9, Shahabad and Puri with 4 each, Birbhum, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr, Sonthal Parganas and Hazaribagh with one each. Illegitimacy and domestic disputes were generally the provoking causes. Eight cases ended in conviction. In five of these cases (3 in Puri, 1 each in Hazaribagh and Monghyr), the accused were transported for life, and in the other three cases the sentence of transportation was reduced to imprisonment varying from 3 to 7 years. Two cases were acquitted for want of sufficient evidence and three cases remained undetected. In nine cases the mothers committed suicide.

In the 730 Railway accidents during the year, 396 persons were killed. Of these 37 were cases of suicide. The Eastern Bengal Report does not give any information on this head.

However uncivil the police generally are to the public, during the last Royal visit the they were very polite. And it is reported that Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales complimented the police on their good conduct and steady behaviour. How we wish the police keep up the character so royally noticed!

THE LATE NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD.

IRFISHAM-UL-MULK, Rais-ud-Daula, Amir-ul-Umara, Nawab Su Ali Kadr Sayyid Hussain Ali Khan Bahadur, Mahbat Jung, G.C.I.E., Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, died on Monday last, Christmas Day. Born on the 25th August 1846, he died on the day after he had completed his sixty years and 4 months. He commenced a new line as the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad. The family arms adopted by him are—*argent*, a dolphin proper above a cheval regardant, also proper. Below the shield the monogram N. B. M. The supporters are the lion and the unicorn. The crest is a *Zulfikar* (sword of the Khalif Ali) proper. The motto is "Nil Desperandum."

His descent has been traced to the Prophet and to Ali, the cousin and successor of the Prophet, married to Fatima, the Prophet's daughter. Hasan, eldest son of Ali, left a son Hasan Massanna, who married Fatima Soghra, daughter of Hussain, Ali's youngest son. A grandson of Hasan Massanna and Fatima Soghra was called Ibrahim Taha-Tahaie ("the pure," "the unsullied"), and from this Ibrahim are derived the Murshidabad family. According to another account, he was the 25th from Imayn Hussain; 36th from Ali; 37th from the Prophet; 39th from Abdul Mottaleb, head of the Koresh tribe and chief of Mecca; 63rd from Ismail; and 64th from Abraham of the Old Testament. Mir Mahomed Jaffar Khan, known as Mir Jaffer, was the first Reis or head of the present family and became Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa in 1757. He died in 1765. There were eight other Nawabs Nazim. The last was Syud Munsoor Ali Khan otherwise called Faridoon Jah, who died in 1884, leaving 3 widows, 19 sons and 21 daughters. Before his death, the last titular Nawab Nazim and Subadar of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, by an Indenture made between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council and himself on the 1st November 1880, abdicated his position and titles. By a Notification No. 51 G. P., dated 17th February 1882, and by a sanad bearing the same date the hereditary title of Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad was conferred by the Government of India on Nawab Ali Kadr Syud Hassan Ali Mirza, the eldest son and his lineal heirs male in perpetuity. On the 12th March 1891, by an Indenture entered into between the Secretary

of State for India in Council and himself, the Nawab Bahadur confirmed the act of his father of first November 1880, and received in return a fixed hereditary position, with a settled income and the family estates attached to the title of Nawab Bahadur in tail male.

Act XV of 1891 confirmed and validated the arrangements made and secured to the new line the rank and dignity of Premier Noble of the Provinces under the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. Does the new Province acknowledge the Nawab Bahadur as the Premier Noble, or glories in a Nawab of its own?

The first Nawab Bahadur was the father of five sons, the eldest of whom, the Hon'ble Asaf Kadr Sayyid Wasif Ali Mirza, born on the 7th January 1875, succeeds him in the family of title and estates.

The late Nawab Bahadur had been ailing since 1890 as a paralytic. The Great Earthquake of 12th June 1897, damaging the Palace, sent the Nawab to a lowly Bungalow and death has now levelled him completely to the ground. The body was taken, within three hours of the death, to the mosque of the Imambara within the killa, the Kerbala built by his father, in 1848, in six months at a cost of six lakhs of rupees. The old one built by Nawab Suraj-ud-Dowla, was burnt down partly in 1842 and completely in 1846, on December 23, at midnight, by the fire from the fireworks let off on the occasion of a party given to the Europeans. On the first day of the erection of his Imambara, Suraj-ud-Dowla brought bricks and mortar with his own hands and laid the foundation of the building himself. The plot of land on which the "Medina" was built had been dug out to the depth of six feet and refilled with the sacred earth from Arabia. In the construction of the Imambara only Musalman architects and workmen were employed to the exclusion of Hindus. Nawab Faridoon Jah also himself laid the foundation-stone of his Imambara, also burying at the same time another stone on which he had written some charms to preserve the building for ever at the mosque.

"The body was placed in the coffin which was then carried in State to Mani Begum's Chawk Musjid, escorted by his eldest son and successor the Hon. Prince Wasif Ali Meerza, Bahadur, where prayers were offered for the benefit of the deceased's soul. The procession then wended its way to the family burial ground at Jafaganj where on the spot where had lain his father's remains, the body embalmed was deposited temporarily pending removal to Kerbela in Arabia for interment. The bier over which hung a canopy of green satin was carried throughout the route a distance of two miles by the relatives of the deceased, the faithful helping at intervals. The procession was the largest ever witnessed of late in Murshidabad. Mohamedans, Hindus, Christians, and Jains of all grades following the bier on foot."

Nawab Faridoon Jah's last illness was paralysis. At his funeral, the chief mourner was the late Sultan Saheb, the eldest son by his Begum consort.

Of the Nizamut family, Nawab Ali Kadr, just deceased along with his brothers Wala Kadr and Humaynu Kadr, was the first to go to Europe, in 1865, returning in March 1866. The father followed in 1869 in the long pursuit of his political adventure. This time Nawab Ali Kadr accompanied him and remained three years in Europe. Prince Wasif Ali Mirza, who succeeds as the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, received his education in England.

It was decided before Faridoon Jah left for England, that he should be the last Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. For, for generations past that title had been nothing more than a fiction, and the maintenance of the empty titular dignities and traditions of a period antecedent to the establishment of the British Empire in India, had been declared by successive Governments, in India and England, to be alike a source of embarrassment to the State and of danger to the possessors.

While thus depriving the Nizamut family of the means of luxurious and extravagant living, or, in the majority of instances, altogether removing from them all stimulus or inducement to personal exertion, it was hinted whether advantage might not be taken of the youth of some members of the family to educate and qualify them in after years to belong to something better than an idle and un-

profitable class of Government stipendiaries. We believe the family have now come to know that nothing will invest them with greater dignity, or contribute more to their happiness, than a career of active utility, either in the service of the State or some other honourable employment. Of this Governmental view, the present Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad has taken the full measure. He went to England at the age of 12, for study. Returning, after eight years, in 1895, he was Chairman of the Murshidabad Municipality in 1899. In 1901, he was appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council, to which he has again come.

In 1867, the Nawab Nazim was informed that his title would not be continued after his death, and that none of his descendants would be allowed to assume it. Sir Cecil Beadon dissenting from the opinion expressed by Colonel Thompson, Agent to the Governor General, Murshidabad, that there would be a better feeling amongst the Native community, both Hindu and Mohammedan, and the Nizamut family towards the British Government, if the title of Nawab Nazim were continued, held that it was neither prudent nor expedient to conciliate such a feeling by conferring on any a title which not only served to perpetuate a state of things long passed away but virtually imposed on the holder obligation of keeping up an extravagant and ostentatious system of the state of pageantry and ceremonial, ruinous to himself and his family and inconsistent with his position as a subject of the Queen.

Notwithstanding the measures taken against the last Nawab Nazim, who had to sink himself into obscurity before his death, the Nizamut family are not being harshly treated by Government. The stipends of the two daughters of the last Gadinashin Begum of Murshidabad, the widow of Faridoon Jah, who died recently, have been increased and pensions and gratuities given to her servants.

AN unprecedented ovation awaited Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji on his return to India as President elect of the 22nd Indian National Congress. He landed at Bombay to the music of—The conquering Hero comes, his path being strewn with real pearls and flowers of gold and silver. At Calcutta he was received with the strains of Bande Mataram. He drove through the black quarter of the town like Jagannath, Lord of the Universe, in the annual Rath Jatra, receiving, in place of the *bhog* (offering of foods), addresses of welcome. In College Square, where the procession ended, his coming was welcomed as that of a bridegroom wearing a nation's love.

In the Congress Camp, the Reception Oration by Dr. Rashbihari Ghose was splendid. It was a treat indeed to hear him. The address is a finished work of art by a master hand. In the present disturbed state of Bengal, it would have been a disappointment to the delegates from all other parts of India, if the address lacked its literary grace, its sarcastic references, its incisive allusions, its richness of imagery, its flow of language, and its concentration of ideas. The one feeling created by its delivery was that there was no question as to who should be the President of the next year's Congress.

The Congress having attained its majority, has ceased to appeal to Government, believing that it can walk itself. This is indeed commencement of the "Swaraj" preached by the grand old President of the present session.

IN his "Annals of a Quiet Neighbourhood," George Macdonald has:

"After this Christmas-tide, I found myself in closer relationship to my parishioners."

Does Christmas draw the Europeans nearer to the Indians? The "Empire" (Dec. 24) writes.

This is among Christians, however, the season of good will, and it may not be out of place to point a special moral for Christians who reside in India. There never was a time when Christmas influences were more necessary in Bengal. We may be pardoned for once more referring to the angry passions that have been surging over us during the last 15 months. Those passions have become so common to both communities that it is difficult to exactly apportion the blame attaching to each for nourishing them and

giving them expression. But this is Christmas, and most Europeans are Christians. Therefore it is especially incumbent upon them to bury the hatchet. Our Indian contemporaries have expressed similar sentiments during religious festivals especially Indian. There is every reason why we should rectify our wrongs. If we do the result can only be highly beneficial to ourselves and the land we live in.

It fortunately happens that the wave of anti-pretty-nearly everything that swept over a good many parts of India a few months ago is gradually subsiding, and we believe that the time is auspicious for inaugurating a new period of "rapprochement" between the European and Indian subjects of His Majesty. We all wanted a lesson and we have had it. It has been mutually borne in upon us that co-operation between the races is essential at the present juncture of Indian development. In order that the lesson may bear the largest possible crop of results it is desirable that we should accept it in good part. Christmas could scarcely have been better timed. We consider, of course, the Indians are also bound by moral obligations to give full play to their better feelings. But the associations of Christmas cannot be expected to appeal to them as it appeals to sojourners from the West and it will apply to them even less if our hearts make no response to the grand old anthem "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

THE following press communique, dated Calcutta the 13th December, of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, was posted to us on the 20th December by the Government of Bengal.

"The Government of India have recently, in consultation with the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, in the United Kingdom, had under consideration the steps necessary to prevent the importation from India to the United Kingdom of the disease among horses known as dourine. It has been decided that legislation with the object of preventing the exportation of horses to the United Kingdom except under certificates of freedom from the disease is unnecessary, but arrangements will be made for the grant of such certificates at the seaport towns of India to such exporters as may voluntarily apply for them."

The Government of India having started a Press Room seem to have given up all connection with the Press, except on special occasions. The time has perhaps arrived when newspapers must not find their way to Government House or Viceregal Lodge. When the supply of news to the press is to be through a prescribed channel, why should the receipt of news from newspaper offices be direct?

UNDER the provisions of section 5 of the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900 (VI of 1900), the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. E. W. Ormond, Barrister-at-Law, Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta to officiate as a Judge of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, during the absence on combined leave of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bigge, or until further orders.

THE Hon'ble Sir C. M. Ghose having been permitted to resign his office of Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, the Governor General in Council is pleased, under the provisions of the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vict., C. 101), section 7, to appoint Mr. C. W. Chitty to act as a Judge of the said Court during the continuance of the vacancy, or until further orders.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bodilly having been permitted to resign his office of Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, the Governor General in Council is pleased, under the provisions of the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vict., C. 101), section 7, to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. B. L. Gupta, I.C.S., to act as a Judge of the said Court during the continuance of the vacancy or until further orders.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sale having been granted furlough

for one year, the Governor in Council is pleased, under the provisions of the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vict., C. 104), section 7, to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Syud Sharf-ud-din, Barrister-at-Law, to act as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal during the absence of Mr. Justice Sale or until further orders.

THE CONGRESS.

HON'BLE DR. RASHI BEHARY GHOSE'S WELCOME.

Brother Delegates and Countrymen,

As Chairman of the Reception Committee, it is my privilege to welcome you to Calcutta, a city which in many ways presents a strong contrast to Benares where you assembled last year;—that "sweet city of dreaming spires" plunged in thought and passionately yearning for a higher and truer life than can be found in the things of this world, its pomps, its vanities and its cares. The city of Jon Charnock is not, I admit, classic ground. It does not draw our hearts or stir our pulses as Benares does;—so rich in historic associations and so lovely even in her desolation. And yet Calcutta is by no means an unfit place for the meeting of the National Congress; for the life and motion and the many-sided activity, the signs of which are all around you, are typical of the new order that has been called into existence by the play and inter-action of Eastern and Western ideals which without killing our deep spiritual life that precious heritage of every child of the East—have inspired us with a sense of social duty incompatible with a life of cloistered seclusion and pale asceticism. And it is this sense of social duty that has brought together from all parts of India, no longer a mere geographical expression, a band of self-identifying men representing the intelligence, the culture and the public spirit of the mother land, fired with the noblest and purest purposes, resolved to do their duty to their country and confident in her destiny. They know that for good or for ill they stand face to face with a new world and must adapt themselves to the environment. They know that the problems which now meet them cannot be solved by piety and philosophy alone and that under the new conditions which have arisen, political and social action is essential to our progress as citizens of the British Empire. Calcutta, therefore, in, I repeat, not an unfit place for the discussion of the new problems which have arisen. Indeed in some ways this city with its ceaseless roar and whirl is a fitter place than Benares whose true strength lies not in action but in thought.

The Committee of which I have the honour to be the Chairman consists of representatives of all sections of the community, including several Mahomedan gentlemen of light and leading who like the late Mr. Tayabjee, the foremost man among his community in our generation, whose loss is still fresh upon us, believe that their duty to their country is not inconsistent with loyalty to England, I mean true loyalty—the loyalty of the dial to the sun and not that protected loyalty in plush which proclaims itself from the house-tops and whenever any person in authority speaks is ready to shout, "It is the voice of a God and not of a man." With the exception of some Nawabs and Khan Bahadurs in the Eastern province who are now weeping like the poor Queen of Carthage for Sir Joseph Fuller you will find on the reception Committee almost all the most prominent men of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. Maharajas and Rajas, representatives of ancient houses, elected members of Legislative Councils, of Municipalities and of Local and District Boards, professors and school masters, merchants and traders, doctors, journalists and lawyers are all to be found on its rolls. But you will miss two names which have been associated with the Congress from the very beginning. Woomesh Chunder Bonnerjee and Anand Mohan Bose have been recently lost to us and we are yet in the fulness of our grief. They fought side by side in the service of their country to which they had dedicated their lives and in death were not divided. Woomesh Chunder Bonnerjee stood by the cradle of the National Congress and nurtured and fostered it with parental solicitude and affection. That Congress which may be said in no small measure to owe its very existence to him comes of age to-day; but our beloved leader, so wise and valiant, is not with us to partake in our rejoicings. His ashes rest in a foreign land, but a nation's sorrow followed him across the seas to his last resting place in England, the country which next to his own he loved best. In the death of Anand Mohan Bose every one felt as if he had lost a personal friend; for he was of an eminently winning disposition distinguished not less by his amiability than by the purity of his life. To deep spiritual fervour, he joined a lofty patriotism, working "as ever in the great Task Master's eye." Indeed in Anand Mohan Bose patriotism grew to the height of a religion. And it was this happy union of the religious and civic elements in his

character that sustained him when with life fast ebbing away and with the valley of the shadow of death almost in sight, he poured out his soul in that memorable swan song of the 16th of October, 1905, when a whole people plunged in gloom assembled together in solemn protest against the ruthless dismemberment of their country.

"If," says Cicero, "to his country a man gives all, he becomes entitled to what all money cannot buy,—the eternal love of his fellow men." This is the exceeding great reward of every true patriot and no one can question Anand Mohan's title to it. His death stirred Calcutta to its depth; and in that vast throng which followed the bier in long and solemn procession every eye was wet with tears, every face was clouded with the shadow of a deep sorrow.

Our friends have been taken away from us before their work was done. But if the soldier who dies in a forlorn hope has not lived in vain, depend upon it, the lives of Woomesh Chunder Bonnerjee and Anand Mohan Bose cannot have been wasted as autumn leaves. True, their seats on the platform are vacant, true they can no longer guide our counsels or plead the cause of their country or defend it by tongue and by pen through good report and though evil report. But they have left behind them a lesson which shall not die and an example for all time to inspire and encourage their countrymen—an example which ought to sustain and comfort us when as now we are compassed round by dangers and by darkness. Is it an idle fancy or do I really see our departed friends revisiting the scenes of their earthly labours and watching over our deliberations? Yes, they are with us to-day—our guardian angels and patron saints whom we may reverence and even worship without offence, for such homage and worship, it is no paradox to say, are an ennobling and not a degrading superstition.

Brother delegates, I spoke just now of dangers and of darkness and the tale of our afflictions is a long one. We have been tried by desolating floods and by famine in the very heart of the granary of the Province, a famine in which numbers have died of hunger and slow starvation. Prosperity budgets could not keep them alive nor blue books on the material and moral progress of India nourish them. They died, men, women and children without a murmur on their pale lips and their bones are now whitening the plains of East Bengal together, I believe, with copies of Lord Lytton's Famine Commission Report. But even these visitations pale before the political perils by which we are threatened. For we are truly fallen on evil days and on evil tongues; and Bengal at the present moment is a land of many sorrows in which we have been sustained and consoled only by the sympathy of our countrymen.

Our trials commenced with the partition of Bengal, that ill-starred measure of that most brilliant Viceroy who had nothing but gibes and sneers for our aspirations and prayers and who found India comparatively contented and left it fermenting with unrest. The notification of the 16th of October 1905, was the parting gift of Lord Curzon to Bengal;—a province for which he always dissembled his love. Now I do not mean to impute unworthy motives to the author of the dismemberment of our Province, but he must be a bold man who should say that the separation of East Bengal is not likely to interfere with the collective power of the Bengalees or the growth of our national spirit. He must also be a bold man who should say that it is not a menace to the ascendancy of Calcutta, the centre of political and intellectual activity, in this part of the country. He must again be a bold man who should say that the Mahomedan population in the new Province may not be used as tools by artful and unscrupulous persons to keep in check the growing strength of the educated community; for religious animosities may be easily kindled among an illiterate people, though not so easily subdued. A division on the basis of territory and population was tried, as we all know, by the

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We have been told on high authority that the partition of Bengal is a settled fact but Mr Morley keeps an open mind and we refuse to believe that the last word has been said or that the subject will never be re-opened. In the meantime we cannot allow the question to sleep. Unfinished questions, it has been well said, have no pity for the repose of nations. We have been pained for those who are bound to us by the ties of blood, of race, of language and of country and bound too by the ties of common sense and common aspirations; and the wound which has been thus inflicted on us refuses to heal. The sentiments of the people have been

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The partition of Bengal was followed by Russian methods of government with this difference; the officials who devised them were Englishmen, while the Russian official is at least the countryman of those whom he governs or misgoverns. The singing of national songs and even the cry of Bande Mataram were forbidden under severe penalties. This ordinance was fittingly succeeded by the prosecution of school boys, the quartering of military and punitive police, the prohibition and forcible dispersion of public meetings and these high handed proceedings attained their crown and completion in the tragedy at Barisal, when the provincial conference was dispersed by the Police who want only broke the peace in order, I imagine, to keep the peace. Now though we are a thoroughly loyal people and our loyalty is not to be easily shaken, because it is founded on a more solid basis than mere sentiment, I have no hesitation in saying that we should be less than men if we could forget the tragedy of that day, the memory of which will always fill us with shame and humiliation. And this leads me to remark that it was not cowardice whatever Mr. MacLeod may think, that prevented our youngmen from retaliating. It was their respect for law and order—their loyalty to their much reviled leaders that kept them in check.

his has now happily been put an end to. But as soon as the cloud began to lift, those Anglo-Indians who are obliged to live in this land of regrets merely from a high sense of duty were seized with the fear that their monopoly of philanthropic work might be interrupted and immediately commenced a campaign of slander and misrepresentation which in virulence and mendacity has never been equalled. I.C.S.'s in masks and editors of Anglo-Indian newspapers forthwith began to warn the English people that we were thoroughly disloyal; fretting out sedition with an ingenuity which would have done no discredit to the professors of Laputa. Cato tells us that the Roman augurs could not look in one another's face without a smile and I have a shrewd suspicion that the editors and their masked correspondents who joined in this hunt must have exchanged significant glances "across the walnuts and the wine." One Calcutta paper discovered Golden Bengal and told its startled readers that our province was honeycombed with secret societies. It seems, however, that with the retirement of that redoubtable knight, Sir Joseph Fuller, things took a more serious turn, for we then flung all secrecy aside and openly announced and crowned Banu Surendranath Banerjee whom I suppose I must no longer call my friend but my Liege Lord as our King. A floral crown, it was said, might be a harmless thing but there must have been sedition in the folds of the aureole and this silly story, appropriately invented in the busy season, which lightened our party in Calcutta, seems actually to have frightened hysterical old women in England including some retired Anglo-Indians whose nerves, I fear, have been shattered by an immoderate use of the taxed salt of India. While so many distinguished themselves, it might be invidious to mention the name of any particular individual; but I cannot help thinking that our special acknowledgments are due to Dr. Grierson, the great oriental scholar—translations like fortunes are very easily made by foreigners in India—who with that charity which thinketh no evil hastened to inform the English press that Bande Mataram was an invocation to Kali, the goddess of destruction;—a goddess in the way whose altar will never be deserted as long as the egoism of our day which means nothing less than the desire of about thirty lacs among the 500 millions.

The Swadeshi movement seems also to have given great offence to a certain section of the Anglo-Indian community. They have, they say, every sympathy with true Swadeshi but one with the pseudo Swadeshi of Bengal. Now I confess, but though a lover of some standing, not perhaps altogether impregnable to find distinctions without any diffidence, I have never been able to discover the line which separates true from false Swadeshi, though we all know the difference between true and false sympathy. It seems that if you call the movement a boycott of foreign goods you are a traitor to England. But competition with Manchester is not vice treason in the Indian statute book. It is true the movement received an impetus from the Partition of Bengal, when we wanted to draw the attention of England to what we regarded as nothing less than vivisection, the crowning act in a reactionary

policy steadily pursued for nearly seven years. But what reasonable man can doubt that the real strength of the Swadeshi movement is to be found in our natural desire to nurse our own industries which the Government of India with their free trade principles are unable to protect by building up a tariff wall? Mere boycotting, we know, will not bring happiness or wealth to us, or save our hungry masses from what Mr. Bryan calls the peace of the grave. This can only be done by improving the economical condition of the country, so rich in resources of all kinds, by the creation and diffusion of domestic industries and by the investment of local capital in industrial arts in which India was pre-eminent at one time but which have now almost all been killed by Western competition. The Swadeshi movement is only a prelude to our determination to enter into the great brotherhood of the trading nations of the West, without, if possible, the eternal struggle between capital and labour, into which Japan has already been admitted. And if you want to know what progress we have made come with me to the Exhibition on the other side of the street, which I hope you have not boycotted and I will show you what this movement, the implication of which with politics is a mere accident in Bengal from which many of us would gladly dissociate it, has already done for us. A visit to it, I am sure, will fill the heart of every one of you with hope and gladness for in Swadeshi you see the cradle of a new India. To speak of such a movement as disloyal is a lie and calumny. We love England with all her faults, but we love India more. If this is disloyalty we are, I am proud to say disloyal. But is there a single Englishman who really thinks in his heart that the material progress of the country will loosen the ties which bind us to England? On the contrary would it not be relieving the economical drain on India, bind the two countries closer together?

Swadeshiism, I need not remind you, is not a new cult. It counted among its votaries almost all thoughtful men long before the division of Bengal and found expression in the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held under the auspices of the National Congress in Calcutta in 1901. It does not, I repeat, mean hostility to anything and everything that is British but merely the awakening of an industrial life. The Swadeshi movement has been the principal motive power in the industrial development of the country and I would remind those who say that Bengal can only talk that in the course of the present year more than ten lacs of rupees have been given by Bengalees for the encouragement of technical education. Our young men are now taking in large numbers to industrial pursuits and are qualifying themselves for their future callings in the national institutions which have been recently opened in Calcutta, but the most promising feature in the movement is that it has brought the masses and the educated classes together as it promises to the artisan and labourer some mitigation of the chronic poverty in which they are now steeped. And here I must interrupt myself for a moment to point out that the great assistance which has been rendered to us by Government in organizing our exhibition shows their friendliness to the Swadeshi movement. This action of Government, I am sure, will tend to draw closer the ties which should bind them and the people together; and their co-operation which has been of the greatest help to us ought to give food for reflection to those who revile Government in season and out of season. It would perhaps be idle to endeavour to convince men who brood only of the old commercial jealousy of England which did not a little to the injury of British and Indian industries. But I may be permitted to point out that they forget that in those days a ruling race did not regard itself as subject to the restraints which now govern its relations with a subject race. It is true the ethical code of Plato is not as yet the code of the statesman, but it is now generally acknowledged that to impoverish a subject race is not only unwise but morally wrong.

I trust I have said enough to satisfy every one who has no idea of driving the English into the sea. The same man that we have seen in our writings I am aware that some irresponsible and impulsive journalists and platform speakers have been occasionally betrayed into the use of intemperate language. But is there no excuse for them? We have been called yelping jackals, wolves and chatterers for them? derlog; and even the Viceroy has been described as a ninny, "bon-bon" and the Secretary of State a dummy, because they would not reduce us to the position of whipped curs. But what is even worse than 'yelping jackals,' chattering 'bunderlog' and whipped curs we have been the butt of a Scotchman's wit. Again one paper which shall be nameless spoke of the 'organised scoundrelism' of Eastern Bengal and threatened us with the gallows and the sword to be used as remorselessly as in the dark days of the mutiny for the 'tiger spirit' of the editor had been roused. It is true he spoke of the tiger spirit of the English; but natural history does not furnish any instance in which a lion has degenerated into a tiger in India, although such a transformation is not perhaps absolutely impossible. There was not one to speak the fitting word, the word in due season to soothe our bruised hearts.

(To be continued.)

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
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OPINION OF THE EDITOR

It is a most interesting record of the life of a remarkable man.—Mr. H. Babington Smith, Private Secretary to the Viceroy, 5th Oct. 1895.

Dr. Mookerjee was a famous letter-writer and there is a breezy freshness and originality about his correspondence which make it interesting reading.—Sir Alfred W. C. K. C. I. E., Director of Public Instruction Bengal, 26th September, 1895.

It is not that amid the pressure of harassing official duties an English Civilian can find either time or opportunity to pay so graceful tribute to the memory of a native personality as F. H. Skrine has done in his biography of the late Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Bengal journalist (Calcutta Thacker, Spink and Co.); nor are there many who are more worthy of being thus honoured than the late Editor of "Reis and Rayyet."

We may at any rate cordially agree with Mr. Skrine that the story of Mookerjee's life, with all its lights and shadows, is pregnant with lessons for those who desire to know the real India.

No weekly paper, Mr. Skrine tells us, not even the "Hindoo Patriot," in its palmiest days under Kristodas Pal, enjoyed a degree of influence in any way approaching that which was soon attained by "Reis and Rayyet."

A man of large heart and great qualities his death from pneumonia in the early spring of the last year was a distinct and heavy loss to Indian journalism, and it was an admirable idea on Mr. Skrine's part to put his Life and Letters upon record.—The "Times of India (Bombay)" September 30, 1895.

For much of the biographical matter that issues so freely from the press an apology is needed. Had no biography of Dr. Mookerjee the Editor of "Reis and Rayyet," appeared, an explanation would have been looked for. A man of his remarkable personality, who was easily first among native Indian journalists, and in many respects occupied a higher plane than they did, and looked at public affairs from a different point of view from theirs could not be suffered to sink into oblivion without some attempt to perpetuate his memory by the usual expedient of a life. The difficulties common to all biographers have in this case been increased by special circumstances, not the least of which is that the author belongs to a different race from the subject. It is true that among Englishmen there were many admirers of the learned Doctor, and that he on his side understood the English character as few foreigners understand it. But in spite of this and his remarkable assimilation of English modes of thought and expression on Dr. Mookerjee remained to the last a Brahman of the Brahmins—a conservation of the best of his inheritance that wins nothing but respect and approval. In consequence of this, his ideal biographer would have been one of his own disciples, with the same inherited sympathies, and trained like him in Western learning. I Bengal had produced such another man as Dr. Mookerjee, it was he who should have written his life.

The biography is warmly appreciative without being needlessly laudatory, it gives on the whole a complete picture of the man and in the book there is not a dull page.

A few of the letters addressed to Dr. Mookerjee are of such minor importance that they might have been omitted with advantage, but not a word of his own letters could have been spared. To say that he writes idiomatic English is to say what is short of the truth. His diction is easy and correct, clear and straightforward, without Oriental luxuriance or striving after effect. Perhaps he is never so charming as when he is laying down the laws of literary form to young aspirants to fame. The letter on page 285, for instance, is a delightful piece of criticism: it is delicate plain-speaking, and he accomplishes the difficult feat of telling a would-be poet that his productions are not in the smallest degree poetry, without one may conclude, either offending the youth or representing his ardour.

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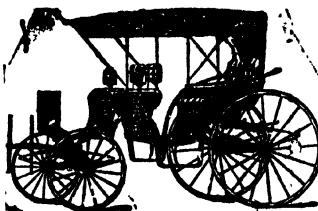
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